

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

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WEEKLY

The World Cup qualifiers ready to blast-off

NOW THE GLOVES ARE OFF!



THE SOCCEROOS

BY TOM ANDERSON

The preliminaries - The Olympic Games, the World Youth Championships and the under-17 World Championships - are over and the main event is about to begin.

The World Cup is the greatest football tournament on earth and the best 24 teams in the world will fight out the finals in the USA in 1994.

Early next month, national coach Eddie Thomson will lead the Socceroos into the fray against the Solomon Islands and Tahiti in Group 1 of the Oceania qualifying series.

On paper, not a very daunting task, but as they say, a journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step!

Coach Thomson has picked a strong squad for the opening round and fully realises there can be no room for error and every stop must be pulled out to qualify for the USA 1994.

In all World Cup competition the 'Law of the Yukon' reigns supreme in that: "Only the strong shall thrive, that surely the weak shall perish and only the fit survive."

(Socceroo squad for World Cup qualifiers on page 3).

Inside... the latest on the World Youth Championships

What ABSW says...

No regret!

OVER the past few weeks we have had quite a bit to say about the present administration of Australian soccer.

Much of it, seemingly not to the liking of the powers that be, at the ASF HQ, in Rockdale.

Well to be perfectly honest, this is a not a problem, for this publication, as long as I'm the editor, will continue to strive for the betterment of the game in this country.

And, if the ASF continues to make mistakes, we think detrimental to the code, we will continue to highlight them.

If the ASF administration don't like an ABSW opinion, it's usually because it's the one they didn't really want to hear!

If the people in the cobweb corridors of Rockdale can't get it right, then they shouldn't be there.

Soccer - and this includes our national teams - is not the property of the ASF or some administrators who like being a big fish in little pond, but the property of the Australian sportsfans.

Over the years, soccer throughout the world has kept pace with developing trends.

But at times here in Australia, the well meaning amateurs who comprise the ASF, have continued to trundle on their weary way.

Surely in 1992 it is not too much to ask for a real soccer professional - a man who has been through the mill as a player or coach or as a manager to be co-opted onto the Board of Commission.

A man who knows all about every major aspect of the game.

At the present moment no such personality is on the Board and this is one reason why the mistakes are coming thick and fast.

But again I suppose, such a man would upset the present ASF apple cart and the last thing they would want, was a professional homing in on their preserves.

But, this is something which will have to come if the game of soccer in this country is to escape from the present stagnation it now wallows in!

- THE EDITOR

MARKOVSKI LEAVES MARCONI HE'S RETURNING TO VICTORIA

BY TOM ANDERSON

BIG striker-come-midfielder John Markovski will leave Marconi and join a Melbourne based NSL club.

Last week Markovski informed the Marconi club that he wished to return to Melbourne and wanted a transfer.

His wishes have been granted.

Every NSL club in Victoria now want to sign the Olyroo and competition for his services is fierce.

However, Marconi will

require a very healthy transfer fee for the big lad.

Other transfer-listed Marconi stars David Lowe and Mark Jones are training and having talks with Sydney Croatia.

Both are on transfer fees of \$15,000 and are bargains at the price.

Another transfer-listed star Jean Paul de Marigny is also having talks with Sydney Croatia and Sydney Olympic.

Striker David Seal has agreed to join Olympic, but the transfer negotiations between the two clubs are far from settled.

Seal will not come

cheap for Olympic.

Marconi are no fools and they fully realise that there is a big chance of Seal going overseas in the future - if he can regain his true goal scoring ability.

And with this in mind the Fairfielders want full value for the player.

Also they still remember the day when Olympic 'stole' Ned Zelic from under their nose.

On the other side of the coin, brilliant youngster Matt Bingley has agreed to join the Fairfielders.

The terms of Bingley's

transfer from St George are now nearing completion.

He will be a very valuable acquisition for Marconi.

Ace coach Frank Arok is pleased with the way his pre-season training is progressing.

"Everything is going to plan," Arok said.

"Certainly we have had a few players missing because of national team commitments, but this is something we have to live with.

"By kick-off time we

shall have a new-look Marconi team in the arena.

"One which will give the fans what they want - good entertaining and successful football of the highest calibre."

The Marconi fans are probably the most demanding in Australian soccer.

They are used to the best in facilities and they demand the best on the soccer field.

Over the years they have had their success and disappointment.

Now again they are crying out for the glory days of old.

And with Arok at the helm, the Rolls Royce club of Australian football is now set to get on the road again!

He's a coach who's 'been there and done that' and a man who knows what is required to keep the punters happy!

However, like all coaches, Arok does not have a magic wand and cannot guarantee overnight success.

But as stated pre-

viously, the future looks brighter than ever for Marconi and 1992-93 looks like being a smasher for the Fairfielders.

FOOTNOTE: Old campaigner Tony Pezzano has signed on for the Fairfielders and at this stage looks set to be 'number 2' goalkeeper to Mark Schwarzer.

Pezzano is a good signing for the Fairfielders as he's a very handy man to have around. He's also a good influence in the dressing room to the younger players.



JOHN MARKOVSKI

AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH SOCCER

WEEKLY

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EDDIE READY!

BY TOM ANDERSON

It's all systems go for the Socceroos in their coming Oceania qualifying round of the World Cup.

The Socceroos will be 'eased' into the World Cup scene with what looks and should be, quite an easy task against two Pacific Island opponents.

The difficult rounds follow against New Zealand, then (hopefully) the nations from Central and South America.

But national coach Eddie Thomson is not taking anything for granted against the Islanders in his first World Cup sortie in charge of the Socceroos.

Complacency is not a word in Thomson's book when it comes to World Cup duty.

"This is it and this is what we have been preparing for during the past two years," he told me.

"There now can be no room for error."

"We intend to treat every qualifying game like a Cup Final.

"This is how important it is.

"The Solomon Islands and Tahiti look easy opponents on paper, but football games are not played on paper - unfortunately!

"In the away games, conditions will play a big part in the proceedings.

"And, it is important we adapt to any conditions that may come our



EDDIE THOMSON

way in the Pacific.

"The experience our players have gained during the tour of the Americas and in the international series against Sweden and Croatia will now prove invaluable.

"I'm happy with the squad for the games against the Solomons and Tahiti and I'm confident it's strong enough to take care of the job at hand.

"Our big-guns from overseas such

as Frank Farina, Graham Arnold and Robbie Slater, to name but three, were not considered for this series.

"They will however be required later on in the series."

The Socceroo squad will have two days together in Brisbane before flying out to Honiara in the Solomons on Sept 2.

After the match they will return to Sydney where they will over-night before flying out to Papeete in Tahiti.

THE SOCCEROO SQUAD

Robert Zabica	(Adelaide City)
Tony Franken	(Apia)
Milan Ivanovic	(Adelaide City)
Mehmet Durakovic	(South Melbourne)
Ian Gray	(Marconi)
Andrew Bernal	(Sydney Olympic)
Andrew Marth	(Melbourne Croatia)
Alex Tobin	(Adelaide City)
Mark Talajic	(Melbourne Croatia)
Ernie Tapai	(Adelaide City)
Damian Mori	(Melbourne Croatia)
Greg Brown	(West Adelaide)
Paul Wade	(South Melbourne) capt.
Mike Petersen	(South Melbourne)
Tom McCulloch	(Marconi)
Jason Polak	(Holland)
Alistair Edwards	(Johor)
Carl Veart	(Adelaide City)

QUALIFYING DATES

OCEANIA GROUP 1

Fri Sept 4 v Solomon Islands in Honiara

Fri Sept 11 v Tahiti in Papeete

Sun Sept 20 v Tahiti in Brisbane

Sat Sept 26 v Solomon Islands in Newcastle

EAGLES TO FLY HIGH

BY TOM ANDERSON

SYDNEY NSL club Melita Eagles are preparing to fly high and scale the heights during the 1992-93 season.

Under new mentor - ace coach Rale Rasic - the Eagles are looking ever so professional in their pre-season buildup.

In typical Rasic fashion, which now is his hallmark, the Eagles squad has been training four, five and sometimes six evenings a week to get into shape for the important sortie ahead.

And, spirit in the camp is sky high.

There have however been a few defections from the Eagles camp during the off-season.

Losses which will be difficult - even for a renowned expert such as Rasic - to overcome in the short term working on a limited budget.

But if anyone can do it, this man can!

The major departures are of course, striker Greg Brown and midfielder Hugo Gimenez, who have gone to West Adelaide.

Both are experienced performers who have been important men in the Eagles setup over the past few seasons.

No doubt, however, their departure will bring the best out of Marshall Soper, who will be on deck once again.

Coach Rasic is also confident that when kick-off time comes around in October, he will have signed two overseas recruits.

As usual Rasic is full of confidence for the coming campaign.

"Sure, we have lost a few players, but this is football and not the end of the world," Rale told me last week.

"In this game as one door closes, another opens.

"I'm very happy with the way pre-season training is going and there is a tremendous



MARSHALL SOPER

spirit in the camp.

"My plan for the coming campaign is to have four or five experienced players in the lineup, with the other spots being taken by youngsters.

"There is an abundance of good young players at the club and the future is very bright on the horizon.

"There is a wonderful spirit within this club and we're on target as far as the new season is concerned."

With new boss Rasic in control, it will be a new look Eagles and an outfit which is certain to be a winner.

BREAKERS WAY OUT IN FRONT

BY TOM ANDERSON

NEWCASTLE BREAKERS have shown a \$100,000 profit after their first year in the NSL.

This has been disclosed by club General Manager David McQuire.

"Between our social club and the football setup we made a profit of \$100,000 over the last financial year," a delighted McQuire told me last week.

"This is very heartening and it comes after a great deal of hard work from many people.

"Indeed, we are fortunate to have such people at the club."

Breakers have now started work on another grandstand at their Austral Park Stadium.

On the playing side, the Breakers have so far recruited two new faces for next season's NSL - Socceroos' striker Warren Spink and defender Darren Stewart.

However there is a fitness problem with Spink who may require surgery on his groin.

The live wire striker was injured during the international series against Croatia and the injury was further aggravated in Indonesia at the Independence Cup.

So much so, he was forced to return home midway through the series.

It now seems under the circumstances, the ASF may



WARREN SPINK

be responsible for the costs pertaining to Spink's high medical costs.

Breakers coach Bruce Stowell also hopes to sign two more players before the season kicks off.

"I'm still in the market for a midfielder and a striker," Stowell disclosed.

However, the wily mentor does not intend to sign any player just for the sake of it, and will bide his time until the right men are available.

The no-nonsense Stowell is confident there is a big season ahead for his club.

"We now know what the NSL is all about and the players will respond accordingly," Bruce declared.

"I have at my disposal a fine squad determined to do well for this club.

"Also in youngsters like Dominic Longo and Brad Maloney we have two of the finest players in Australia.

"We expect big things from this duo over the next 12 months."

The overseas scouts are also casting their eyes on Longo and Maloney and offers from Belgium and the UK have already been made.

The Newcastle setup is a fine one and with McQuire and Stowell at the helm, this club has stability.

A stability which should take it to great heights during the upcoming season,

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THOMSON'S VIEWS



NATIONAL COACH EDDIE THOMSON

OLYROO stars John Markovski and Damian Mori are on the verge of greatness and will be an integral part of the Socceroos, according to national coach Eddie Thomson.

Thomson said the Melbourne-born strikers proved at the Barcelona Olympics that they were equipped to join their Australian Under-23 teammates Ned Zelic, Paul Okon, Tony Vidmar and Milan Blagojevic in the senior squad.

And he believed Markovski, 22, and Mori, 21, would be there by the time of the World Cup tournament in the United States in 1994, providing the Socceroos qualify.

"I think they will be stand-outs.

"They are fine players," Thomson said.

Thomson relishes the idea of his under-23 players putting enormous pressure on the Socceroos to hold their places.

"I can tell you that some of the senior team had their noses out of shape when we went to the US earlier this year because the Olyroos were getting so much

publicity," he said.

Eight of the Olyroo squad - Zelic, Vidmar, Blagojevic, Okon, Sean Murphy, Mark Bosnich, Zlatko Arambasic and Dominic Longo - have already either been signed by eager European clubs or are in negotiation.

And Thomson expected at least two or three more would follow.

Australian Soccer Federation chairman John Constantine promised action to slow the player drain in future by signing players to new three-way contracts for the duration of an Olympic or world championship campaign.

But Thomson admitted it was inevitable that Australia's best young players would continue to play in Europe - more so after the Olyroos had surprised their opposition with a technical ability to match their traditional Australian fighting spirit.

"We are playing them at their own game and beating them now," he said.

"There's nothing we can do about the player poaching. Even bigger soccer countries like Denmark and Sweden are losing their players to the Italys and Frances.

"It's impossible to stop it. Every player wants to play in the biggest leagues.

"If you are the very best in Europe you are talking about earning \$1 million to \$2 million a year.

"We can never match that here.

"It's no use complaining.

"We just have to get on with it."

Thomson believes the Olyroos had provided a turning point in Australian soccer with their switch to a playing style based on skill as well as courage and the key moment in their campaign had been the surprise victory over Holland to claim their Olympic berth.

"Before that no one gave us a chance," he said.

"After it the media was talking about us as a gold or silver medal winner."

Olyroo defender Longo spoke of a special feeling in the squad which got it through in crisis after crisis on the field.

"We have been together for two years now and the team spirit is the best that any of the players have ever experienced and I think it carried us through, on and off the field," he said.

FIFA MUST REVAMP OLYMPIC TOURNAMENT

BY LOU GAUTIER

PROFESSIONAL athletes from baseball, cycling and soccer should be allowed to compete in the Atlanta Olympics in 1996, International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch said last week.

"We want the best athletes in the Olympic Games," Samaranch said at a news

conference after the closing of the Barcelona Games.

With the word "amateurism" no longer included in the Olympic Charter, Samaranch wants the Games to be a competition of the best in each sport.

"It's up to the international federations to decide who they should be," he said.

Sports such as baseball, cycling and soccer do not have pros in the Olympics, but Samaranch said the situation could change by 1996.

Samaranch said he will consult with leaders of FIFA, to discuss ways of improving the level of players in the Games.

At Barcelona, FIFA imposed a 23-year age limit for the Olympics in order to protect the supremacy of the World Cup.

This resulted in catastrophic attendances at all but the final between host nation Spain and Poland at the Nou Camp, which attracted 95,000 people.

At all previous Olympics, soccer drew most spectators by far.

Spain was the exception, which was not really surprising because Catalan fans have been spoilt in 1991/92 with their beloved Barcelona winning the Spanish title and the European Champions' Cup.

There was never a chance they were going to flock in any significant numbers to watch largely unknown under-23 players from countries they knew nothing about when they could stay in the comfort of their homes to watch the world's best live in basketball and other sports.

While basketball stole the limelight in Barcelona by fielding its best - the "Dream Team" from the USA - soccer took a humiliating back seat.

It's all very well for FIFA to want to protect their World Cup - still a bigger global event than the Olympics - but a solution must be found to make the next soccer tournament in Atlanta more attractive to fans and media alike.

OLYROO SCOREBOARD AT BARCELONA '92

THE following is a record of the Olyroos' Olympic campaign in Spain.

Listed are the line-ups of both teams and other relevant statistics of the Aussies' six matches.

GROUP MATCHES

**July 26 at Sabadell*
AUSTRALIA 1 GHANA 3**

Australia: Filan, Blagojevic, Longo, Zelic, Murphy, Vidmar, Okon (Corica), Arambasic (Seal 46m).

Ghana: Mensah, Amankwah, Asare, Gargo (Kuffour 69m), Acheampong, Lamptey, Ayew (Kwame, Kumah (Preko 53m), Adjei, Aryee, Konadu.

Scorers: Gargo 12m, Kwame Ayew 82, 89m for Ghana; Vidmar 90m for Australia.

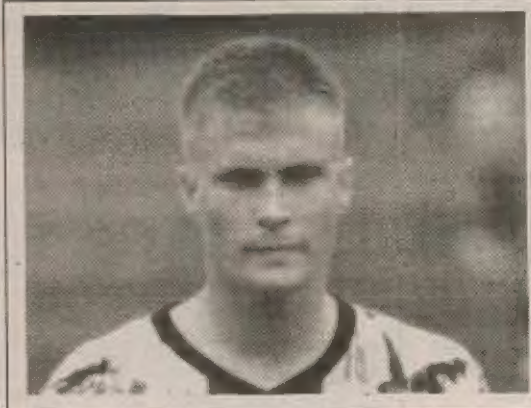
Yellow cards: Amankwah for Ghana; Longo, Slifkas for Australia.

Referee: Bujsaim (UAE).

**July 28 at Barcelona (Sarria)*
AUSTRALIA 1 MEXICO 1**

Australia: Bosnich, Blagojevic, Longo, Zelic, Murphy, Vidmar, Slifkas, Mori, Corica (Veart 46m), Arambasic (Seal 78m), Refenes.

Mexico: Guadarrama, Cadena, Vidrio, Macias, Delgado, Hernandez, Morales (Arteaga 50m), Rangel, Castanada, Rotila



GARY HASLER

(Pineda 75m), Alvarez. **Scorers:** Arambasic 20m for Australia; Castaneda 63m for Mexico.

Yellow cards: Mori, Refenes for Australia; Macias, Morales for Mexico.

Referee: Tachi (Japan).

**July 30 at Zaragoza*
AUSTRALIA 3 DENMARK 0**

Australia: Bosnich, Blagojevic (Veart 46m), Longo, Zelic, Murphy, Vidmar, Okon, Slifkas, Markovski, Mori, Seal.

Denmark: Jorgensen, Helveg, Laursen, Thomsen (JC Madsen 60m), Jensen, Frandsen, Larsen, Tofting, L. Nielsen, Molnar, P. Nielsen (JCM Madsen).

Scorers: Markovski 32m, Mori 60m, Vidmar 76m for Australia.

Yellow cards: Zelic, Murphy, Slifkas for Australia; Helveg, Jensen, Tofting for Denmark.

Red card: Molnar for

Denmark. **Referee:** Baldas (Italy).

QUARTER-FINAL

**August 2 at Barcelona (Nou Camp)*
AUSTRALIA 2 SWEDEN 1**

Australia: Bosnich, Blagojevic, Longo, Zelic, Vidmar, Okon, Murphy, Arambasic (Seal 63m), Markovski (Refenes 73m), Veart, Mori.

Sweden: Ekholm, Johansson, Bjorklund, Lilius, Mild, Andersson, Landberg, Fursth, Rodlund, Brolin (Gudmunsson 31m), Jansson (Axeldahl 59m).

Scorers: Markovski 30m, Murphy 53m for Australia; Andersson 60m for Sweden.

Yellow cards: Veart, Bosnich for Australia.

Referee: Brizio Carter (Mexico).

SEMI-FINAL

August 5 at Barcelona (Nou Camp)*

AUSTRALIA 1 POLAND 6

Australia: Bosnich, Blagojevic, Longo, Zelic, Murphy, Vidmar, Okon, Slifkas, Markovski (Seal 67m), Mori (Arambasic 79m), Veart.

Poland: Klak, Jalocho (Bajor 81m), Lapinski, Kozminski, Waldoch, Swierczewski, Adamczuk, Brzeczek, Juskowiak, Staniek, Kowalczyk.

Scorers: Juskowiak 3, Kowalczyk 2, Murphy o.g. for Poland; Veart for Australia.

Yellow cards: Veart for Australia; Adamczuk for Poland.

BRONZE MEDAL PLAY-OFF

**August 7 at Barcelona (Nou Camp)*
AUSTRALIA 0 GHANA 1**

Australia: Filan, Blagojevic, Longo, Zelic, Murphy (Popovic 26m), Vidmar, Okon, Refenes, Mori, Maloney (Markovski 72m), Hasler.

Ghana: Dossey (Addo 66m), Amankwah, Acheampong, Gargo, Asare, Kumah, Adjei, Lamptey (Quaye 46m), Ayew, Preko, Aryee.

Scorer: Asare 19m for Ghana.

Yellow cards: Longo, Blagojevic for Australia; Lamptey, Aryee, Adjei for Ghana.

Red card: Quaye for Ghana.

- compiled by LOU GAUTIER

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THAT JAKARTA FIASCO EXCUSES, MORE EXCUSES!

BY TED SIMMONS OF AAP

AUSTRALIAN national teams may be banned from taking part in any future tournaments in Indonesia.

Manager Peter Gray said on his return from Jakarta last week that he would recommend to the Australian Soccer Federation that the Socceroos be stopped from going to Indonesia again.

The ASF had sent the Socceroos to Jakarta to give the needed match practice for next month's Oceania World Cup elimination rounds against Solomon Islands and Tahiti.

Gray, who is also NSW Federation president, said he will raise a number of points in his report to the ASF over the staging of the Independence Cup and Australia's participation.

"We didn't expect any favours but we certainly didn't expect to be twice playing two full matches within 20 hours in high heat and humidity while opposition teams got up to three days rest," he said.

"There were administrative problems, such as being charged \$2,000 for a day's laundry and onfield problems, especially with the standard of refereeing.

"The tournament, which Australia won two years ago, started well, but then steadily got worse."

Gray also criticised the splitting of the Socceroos in flying to Jakarta with players leaving Australia from different airports.

"They left in dribs and drabs. The next time a national team leaves it should be as a team, not a collective of individuals," he said.

Refereeing during the tournament brought a series of complaints and the second half of the final was delayed when Korean officials pulled their team off during argument over decisions.

At full time, the referee was pursued by angry Korean officials,



IAN GRAY

who protested the whistle came five minutes early and he had to be escorted from the field by riot police.

Gray said some of the rulings contributed to a lack of discipline by the Australians which brought a rash of yellow cards and suspensions.

But it was more from frustration at the inability to convert chances into goals, he said.

Australia lost to Korea's youth and Malaysia's 'A' side but beat Thailand under-19s and Indonesia 'A'.

The Socceroos had been favoured to win after beating

Croatia and Sweden earlier this year and the outstanding performance by the Olyroos in finishing fourth at the Barcelona Olympics.

Coach Vic Fernandez blamed a lack of preparation and fitness as the major reasons for the Socceroos failing to retain the Cup.

"We dominated every game but the lack of teamwork showed in the early games and we didn't regain our true form until the final match against Indonesia," he said.

"Injuries also played a part with Warren Spink returning to Melbourne for medical treatment and Abbas Saad, Tom McCulloch

and Ian Gray out of action."

THE FACTS AND FIGURES

BY LOU GAUTIER

IN the absence of regulars unable to tour for various reasons and of the Olyroos who were covering themselves in glory in Barcelona, there were some new faces in the Socceroo squad in Indonesia for the ill-fated Independence Cup.

Australia played four games for

two wins and two losses.

Only the matches against Malaysia and Indonesia were full 'A' internationals as the teams involved were senior national teams.

Thailand and South Korea were represented by their under 19 and 23 sides respectively.

The tournament in Jakarta enabled three Australians to make their full 'A' team debut.

Abbas Saad and Zeljko Kalac achieved the honour in the 1-0 loss to Malaysia, incidentally our first-ever against the side now coached by Ken Worden, the former Melbourne Croatia supremo.

And Mark Talajic gained his first full cap in the 3-0 win over Indonesia in the final match of the tournament when Australia had already been eliminated, enabling Malaysia to beat South Korea 2-1 in the final to take out the trophy won by the Socceroos in 1990.

After the matches in Indonesia, Australia's full international record, only including full internationals, reads:

- Played: 263
- Won: 118
- Drawn: 59
- Lost: 86
- GF: 464
- GA: 309

Australia's next full internationals are next month, in the Oceania World Cup qualifiers, against the Solomon Islands and Tahiti, both away.

The full details of Australia's disastrous and ill-timed week in Jakarta:

10.8.92

Australia 1

Thailand U/19 0

Australia: Franken, Stewart, Ivanovic, Tobin, Durakovic, Bernal, Wade, Petersen, Tapai, G. Brown, Edwards. Saad and Gray also came on as subs in the second half.

Scorer: G. Brown 52 min.

11.8.92

Australia 0

Malaysia 1

Australia: Kalac, Grbevski, Ivanovic, Tobin, Durakovic, Bernal, Wade, Petersen (G. Brown 83m), Tapai (McCulloch 70m), Saad, Edwards.

Yellow cards: Bernal and Petersen.

13.8.92

Australia 0

South Korea U/23 1

Australia: Franken, Grbevski, Ivanovic, Tobin, Durakovic, Bernal, Wade, Petersen, Tapai (Gray 70m), G. Brown, Edwards.

Yellow card: Durakovic.

Red card: Petersen.

14.8.92

Australia 3

Indonesia 0

Australia: Franken, Stewart, Tobin, Durakovic (McCulloch 46m), Bernal, Wade (Grbevski 80m), Gray, Talajic, Brown, Edwards.

Scorers: Edwards 61m, Gray 70m, Wade 80m (penalty) for Australia.

Yellow cards: Stewart and Bernal.

ROBBERY

An armed robbery at the Apia Soccer Club at Leichhardt in Sydney's inner-west has been thwarted by an off-duty employee who, unable to contact anyone at the club, alerted police last Wednesday.

A police spokesman says police arrived at the club just after 9am to see two men armed with pistols standing over six employees of the club lying on the floor.

The men were ordered to drop the pistols and were taken to the Annandale police station for questioning.

FORMER KIWI COACH WINS OCEANIA JOB

FORMER New Zealand coach Kevin Fallon has accepted a coaching and development post with the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC).

In accepting an initial two-year contract - with the right of a further two years - with the confederation, Fallon ended the New Zealand Football Association's hopes of retaining his expertise in a junior coaching and development role.

"I have been through a terrible time since Charlie (OFC president Charlie Dempsey) first mooted the possibility," Fallon said after signing the contract.

"It was the hardest decision I have

ever had to make.

"But after talking it over with my wife and family - and they were happy with what it entails - I decided to go with it."

Fallon, already a FIFA instructor, will work mainly in Pacific nations for 30 weeks a year.

He will be available at other times to work in New Zealand and Australia.

Dempsey said: "Kevin has deserved this for some time. It is not a case of Oceania denying the NZFA his services, but I had to find someone to do the job after being commissioned by FIFA to develop football in the island nations, New Zealand and Australia.

"Oceania has used a variety of Australian and New Zealand coaches over the years, but we have not made the progress we should have.

"Kevin will deal directly with FIFA, although Oceania will provide his salary package and will include a car while he is in New Zealand."

Fallon will complete the current national league season with Mt Maunganui before his October 1 start with the OFC.

He hopes to go to Fiji with the All Whites for next month's World Cup return match after acting as Ian Marshall's assistant for the first three games of the qualifying series.

VIDMAR BACK AMONGST THE BELGIAN GOALS

Aurelio Vidmar has continued where he left off in Belgium last season.

The Socceroo midfielder-cum-striker, who created a fine impression on the recent tour of the Americas, was transferred during the close season from relegated Kortrijk to another Flemish First Division side, Waregem.

Vidmar, who made a name for himself last season with nine goals, was again on the scoresheet in Round One of the new season.

He scored for Waregem in the 87th minute, but the team was beaten 2-1 at Lokeren.

Graham Arnold has been suffering from the 30-plus temperatures in Belgium and he is not

happy with his form at FC Liege, where Eddie Krncevic is "semi-retired".

Olyroos Milan Blagojevic and Tony Vidmar are training nicely with Germinal Ekeren but it may be a while before they secure first team berths as the club has no less than seven foreigners on their books.

- LOU GAUTIER

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JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Very interesting!



I have just received the Confederation of African Football's Technical Report on the 18th African Nations' Cup which I attended in January of this year.

The report contains heaps of interesting reading with not too many surprising conclusions.

In fact, if anything, it reinforces the beliefs many of us have on the trend in world football and in particular the weaknesses of football as it heads for the 21st century and the deficiencies of FIFA-run tournaments.

The African Nations' Cup was won by Ivory Coast, beating Ghana in a marathon penalty shootout.

Like many previous tournaments, the African Nations Cup did not throw up the most deserving winner.

The best teams again missed the boat as evidenced by Ivory Coast, apart from winning the lottery penalty shootout, also scoring only four goals in five games - three of those came in their first round win over Algeria.

They failed to score in the semi-final - 0-0 v Cameroun, winning 3-1 on penalties, and in the final itself, 0-0 v Ghana, again winning 11-10 on penalties.

In the countback system I favour when teams are level after extra time, it would have been Ghana - four games, four wins, six goals against two as opposed to Ivory Coast four games, three wins, one draw, four goals against nil which have been declared the winner.

In this tournament, it was again a matter of the most deserving winner missing out for the sake of the dramatic shootout which while great for the uncommitted is far from fair.

The lack of goals was another world-wide trend ... Nigeria with eight in five games topping the list with their star striker Yekini winning the Golden Boot with four goals.

Apart from Ghana, six goals in five games, the rest had pathetic goal scoring records ... Ivory Coast, Cameroun and Senegal four each in five games, Congo and Zaïre two goals in three games, Algeria, Morocco, Zambia and Kenya one each in three games while Italia '90 finalist Egypt failed to score in three outings.

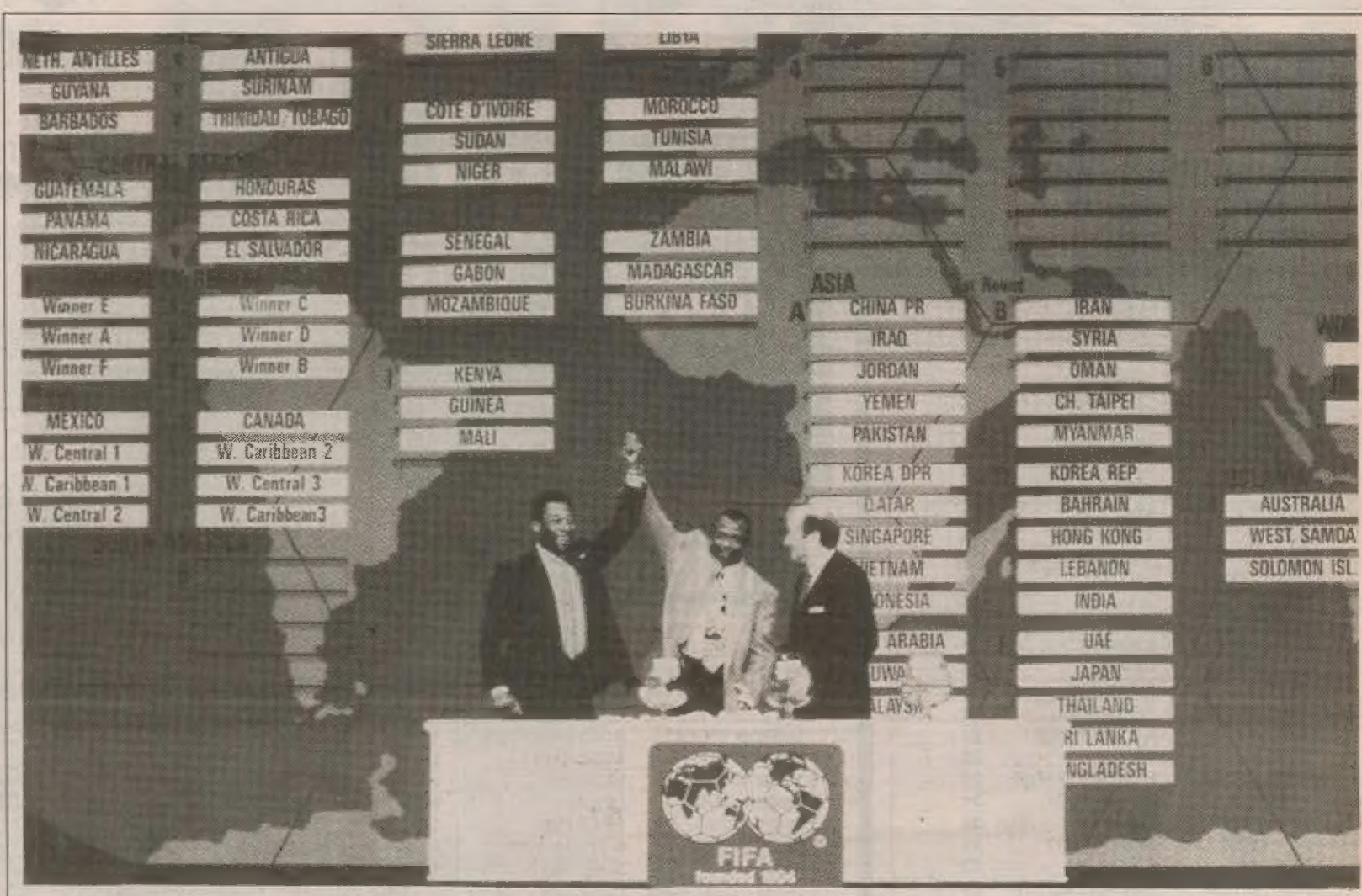
Not surprisingly Abedi Pele, suspended for the final, was voted the best player in the tournament.

The 527 media representatives picked their team of the tournament as:

Goalkeeper: Gouamene (Ivory Coast).

Defenders: Kouame (Ivory Coast), Mendy (Senegal), Ramzy (Egypt), Keshi (Nigeria).

Midfield: Pagal (Cameroun), Maguy (Ivory Coast), Kinkomba (Zambia), Abedi Pele (Ghana).



GHANA'S ABEDI PELE MEET BRAZIL'S PELE AT THE WORLD CUP DRAW

Forwards: Yeboah (Ghana), Yekini (Nigeria).

Of the 527 media reps, 151 were non African.

France with 77 reporters topped the list, Italy had 14, Spain and Portugal six each and Australia two.

The most disturbing statistic in the Technical Report is the amount of playing time ... just under 57 minutes of 63% of the 90 minutes was the ball in play.

In other words, the ball was out of play for 37% or 33 minutes every game.

The Ghana-Nigeria semi final gave us a measly 23 minutes of actual play.

As I mentioned in ASW last week I feel this is FIFA's number one priority as football heads towards the 21st century.

Is it little wonder goals are at a premium world wide when we get the likes of Ghana and Nigeria "playing" 24 minute halves?

If the "playing time" can be increased dramatically, the goal will follow without any major structural changes to the laws.

And again I see the elimination of "injury time" as the ideal way to achieve a dramatic rise in playing time.

Let's cut the time wasted with "injuries".

If the player needs treatment he can go from the field.

Otherwise, the trainer can treat him on the field as in aussie rules and rugby league.

The great vision is dead!

MARACANA... the word conjures up golden images of soccer, samba, Pele. One visit, and the vision dies.

The paint is peeling, stray cats roam at will, water leaks onto the empty terraces and the dressing rooms are infested with cockroaches.

The corridors stink of urine. The Rio Stadium, the world's largest and most glamorous soccer ground, has suffered an agonising decline.

Once 205,000 people packed the stadium for the 1950 World Cup final - still a world record.

After three fans died in an accident last month, the gates are now closed.

No date has been set for re-opening.

The tragedy happened before the start of the Brazilian championship final second leg between Flamengo and Botafogo, two local teams, watched by 145,000 fans.

Part of the fence at the front of an upper tier collapsed and fans plunged five metres onto the seating below.

Three died and more than 50 people were injured.

A lot more had a lucky escape.

"The accident happened before the match when the stadium was comparatively calm.

"Imagine if it had collapsed at the moment when Flamengo scored a goal," said former Brazilian international Gerson, who played in the 1970 World Cup team.

An official investigation said supporters pushing the fence caused the accident and absolved the authorities from blame.

Others said the authorities were guilty by omission.

"There has been a total neglect on the part of the authorities," said newspaper columnist Fernando Calazans, a Maracana regular since 1968.

"They knew the state the stadium was in and they still held the game there."

Gerson agreed: "It is sad to see a place which has been the stage for so many glorious moments be ruined because of a lack of interest on the part of the authorities."

The stadium was in decay long before the accident, one reporter described it as "a giant toilet bowl."

Yet when the stadium was finished in 1950, its design was proclaimed as being years ahead of its time.

For more than three decades, it was the temple of Brazilian soccer when Brazilian soccer was the best.

Some of Pele's greatest moments were witnessed there, including his 1,000th goal, scored in a club match for Santos against Vasco da Gama in 1969.

The ground ranked alongside Sugar Loaf mountain and the statue of Christ as one of the sights of Rio.

Calazans said the stadium began to lose some of its glitter in the early 1980s but the real decline began two years ago, when the Rio state government, which owns the ground, stopped doing even the most basic maintenance.

The peeling paint, holes in the walls and pools of stagnant water are visible results of the neglect.

There is no water in most of the toilets.

When it rains heavily, the dressing-rooms are flooded - which may at least kill some of the cockroaches there.

The state government says it has no money for repairs.

Eighteen months ago, the ground was closed for several weeks after radio reports claimed the upper tier was vibrating.

It was given the green light but not everyone was convinced.

"This thing is going to fall," a local reporter said as the press box shook during a recent game.

At nearly every match, Brazilian newspapers make allegations of "gate receipt evasion" saying that there were more people in the stadium than officially announced.

When the attendance was given during recent games, the crowd would jeer.

"I don't know who the fraudsters are or how the evasion works."

"But the authorities are guilty by omission and the clubs are guilty as well, because they never complain," Calazans said.

The crowd for the first leg of the Brazilian championship final, when only a few gaps on the terraces were visible, was announced as 117,000, leading one newspaper to ask: "Has the Maracana shrunk?"

Where could you have put another 80,000?

For the "Jornal do Brasil" newspaper, the accident was a symbol of all that is wrong with Brazil "from the carefree attitude for human life, the generalised robbery, the lack of security ... to the irresponsibility of the authorities."



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH TOM MCKAIN



A big bonus!

THE coach who steers his team to a Grand Final triumph in the Telecom Flex-Plans Top Five Series will be appointed the new State coach for next year.

The job is part of the bonus for winning the inaugural series.

The supremo will take over from former Soccerroo goalkeeper Martyn Crook, who has just stepped down as Para Hills' boss and has no chance of winning the Grand Final as Para failed to make the "magic five".

Para are advertising the job and Crook may be one of the candidates.

On current form Azzurri's Jan Kierno is favourite to be the new top man with his team in the Grand Final after being Minor Premiers.

However, at the time of going to press his opponents, Birkalla or Croatia, had not been decided.

Birkalla coach Zoran Maricic is odds on to remain as Birks' mentor next season.

However, while Azzurri wants Kierno to stay, he has still to discuss next season with the committee.



AD CITY TRIUMPHANT

The same goes for Croatia's playing coach Alby Kidd.

Beograd's playing boss, Bugsy Nyskohus, is also in limbo at the moment, but he is definite that he will

continue to coach somewhere, and may even continue playing from the bench, despite his veteran status at 42 years of age.

His brother, Johnny Nyskous, will have a

meeting with the Modbury committee in October.

Polonia has announced it will discuss the coaching job next month, with Peter Staneczak, brought in late to do a rescue job, one of

the key candidates.

While most of the clubs will take their time over talks and appointments, Salisbury has to move fast.

They dumped Bob Wincer when the Berries bombed out of the Top Five series, but need a coach for the Ampol Cup series which will kick off in its new September timeslot immediately after the Top Five Grand Final.

It involves Azzurri, Croatia, Birkalla, Beograd, Salisbury, and Modbury (the top six from the Foundation League First Division) plus Coca-Cola Soccer League pair Adelaide City and West Adelaide.

Enfield, runners-up to Olympians in Second Division, and Grand Finalists, look certain to retain Rocky Aloisi, father of City pair Ross and John - if they became promotion candidates.

Olympians, certain of going on the possible promotion list, should again appoint Peter Cagialas.

And if Campbelltown make it into First Division there is no reason why they should not stick with Peter Jaksa.

AMATEUR CORNER



The SA Amateur League has a problem.

It is looking for a suitable finals venues for the Coca-Cola Challenge Cup, Parabanks Reserve Cup and the Newsfront Cup.

The date is September 27 and the league is asking clubs who think they can provide top facilities to contact it as soon as possible.

~~~~~

The League's presentation night has been set for Saturday, October 10.

Clubs are being asked to arrange their own special functions so they don't clash with the main event.

~~~~~

A results service is now available for Amateur League fans.

Scores from Saturday and Sunday Divisions are available on 0055 39261.

The results from the various categories are voice-operated, which saves time and money.

A recent check showed 1000 callers used the service which justified the initiative, criticised in some quarters when first introduced.

~~~~~

SA Federation clubs are not the only ones struggling.

Word is Amateur Leaguers Salisbury United and Tubemakers may merge next season.

Tubemakers had their clubrooms sold from under them and lost players galore, which resulted in only one Division One point gained from 12 games.

Salisbury could show only one point from 11 Division Three matches.

Raul Blanco, new West Adelaide supremo, has not ruled out signing another South American import.

"It depends on the availability of the player, the visa situation and cash," said Blanco, who now has his men in full training.

Blanco's latest coup was to land Stan Lazaridiz from Perth ahead of Adelaide City, and he also snapped up Robbie Hooker.

But there is bad news for West fans.

Tearaway allrounder Lemmy Vatsilas has received a setback in his comeback program following knee reconstruction.

According to Blanco, the likeable Lemmy is 10 months away from hitting the arena again.

However, South American Claudio Canosa, whos offered a leg fracture playing for Port Adelaide as a guest in Second Division, is back in training and looked good.

But aling with West's other South American import from last season, Mario Perucho, he will

have to fight for his place.

XXX

Azzurri is having a Grand Final breakfast on Sunday for their team, officials sponsors and the media.

Venue is the L'Ante Villa in Gouger Street.

Chairman Rep Giordano is hoping he can organise a Grand Final title celebration dinner when the final whistle blows.

XXX

They give out awards for Best Players, Top Referee and Coach of the Year, but what about the ground announcers?

An award should go to Tony Antenucci, the man behind the Mike a Hindmarsh Stadium.

A schoolteacher, he leaves others for dead with his perfect diction and resonant tones.

XXX

## BRIEFS



RAUL BLANCO

One doubts if you could find more drama than there was at Hindmarsh Stadium when Enfield and Olympians met in the Second Division's second semi-final.

Officials started to warm up the huge lighting system as the teams battled on it in extra time with only a minute to go and a penalty shoot-out seeming inevitable.

But as the lights started to glow a young man by the name of Nathan Day got switched on to battle three defenders and score the only goal of the match and take Enfield into the Grand Final.

XXX

While on the Telecom Top Five Series, some fans have asked why, if the first game finishes in the regulation 90 minutes, why the second does not kick off until 3.15pm.

The answer is simple. That is

the time advertised, and there would be riots galore if fans turned up to see their teams and the game had already been going for an hour!

The first match kicks off at 12.30pm to allow for any extra-time.

XXX

While the pigeon problem has appeared to have been solved on the roof and windows of the Hindmarsh Stadium grandstand, another plague has arrived.

Seems the seagulls got to hear about the "pickings" at the ground and are now descending in droves.

XXX

Former Adelaide City superstar Charlie Villani, a bit more round after a stint in the Amateur League as a coach, may make a comeback.

However, word is he will try out with a Foundation SA State League club.

South Australia



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S.A.

South Australia



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S.A.

South Australia



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S.A.





## GREG BLAKE PULLS NO PUNCHES

# It's an open field!



NORTH GEELONG'S BOGDAN BONK

The field chasing Victoria's 1992 Coach of the Year Award is as open as any in recent memory.

Any one of of five coaches are front-running the pack, with three or four others also with claims for the crown as the best in the Premier League for 1992.

Albion's remarkable player-coach Les Carter and Thomastown's veteran Len McKendry are obvious choices.

Each has turned around the season for his respective club when all looked lost three months ago.

And what of the claims of Green Gully's Dusan Kalezic, in his rookie Premier League campaign? Kalezic has turned an also-ran in '91 into the league's top scoring outfit.

Branko Culina, surely one of most studious coaches in

the competition, is leading league newcomer North Geelong into the finals after a record-breaking season.

No mean feat considering the West Coasters' finish will be the best ever by a team in its first season after being promoted.

Brunswick Juventus boss Billy Rogers has done a splendid job in getting the Zebras back up after the title win last season, especially after losing Brian MacNichol and Jeff Doyle as well as Sean Lane and Reno Minichiello, who both returned mid-year.

Andy Bozikas has unfashionable Bulleen up there for the second year running and even Tony Vrzina has got a show, having taken ailing St Albans well clear of relegation problems since mid-season.

Whoever takes out the award in 1992 will have thoroughly deserved it.

# A real historic event

History will be made this weekend as the first round of the inaugural Victorian Premier League finals series gets under way with a Sunday double-header featuring the elimination and qualifying semi-finals.

For the first time in Victorian Soccer Federation history the championship will come down to what happens on grand final day, this year at South Melbourne's Middle Park home on September 20.

The grand final will be the only match scheduled in VSF competition on that day.

The top five series, identical to that used by the NSL until last season, replaces the first-past-the-post system.

The VSF is hoping Premier League fans will respond to the finals series

in the same manner as NSL supporters have in record numbers in recent seasons.

VSF officials are expecting a crowd of around 5,000 on grand final day and in excess of 15,000 for the series.

Highlights of grand final day include the half time grand final sprint, a foot race between Premier League players from all clubs to decide the quickest player in the competition and the presentation of the ABSW - Pascoe Vale Sports Scene 1992 Most Exciting Player of the Premier League award.

The best player on the

ground in the grand final will be presented with a specially minted medal to mark his achievement.

The curtain-raiser to the big game will be a full scale friendly game between the Victorian state team and a South Melbourne side featuring new signings Kevin Muscat, Dean Anastasiadis and Francis Awaritefe.

The Vics are in training for the Mildura re-match with South Australia and South Melbourne will be gearing up for the October start of the summer NSL season.

The grand final, as well as all the other six matches in the finals series, will be broadcast live by Radio 3AK's 'Super Soccer Sunday' team.

Meanwhile, VSF

executive director Terry Jones has confirmed that the so-called 'minor premiers' - the team which topped the Premier League ladder after the home-and-away series - will be rewarded for its efforts.

"We will be presenting the minor premiers with a pennant at the AGM later this year", Jones confirmed.

"But, more importantly, the club which tops the ladder will be taking a share of the gate-takings in the finals, even in the first week when they're not competing.

"They also benefit in that they only have to win one game to make the grand final, so they definitely have an advantage".

Jones said he was pleased with the interest in the top five series.

"The major benefit is that the interest in the competition is retained right up until the final round", he explained.

"The benefit of the top five series has to be weighed up against the traditional system and on balance the top five is the best thing for the Premier League competition".

The finals series games, with extra time and penalties being called in to decide drawn games after 90 minutes, will be played as follows:



THOMSTOWN V JUVENTUS

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| Sunday August 30<br>(Double-header)                                                               | Sunday September 6<br>(Double-header)                                                                         | Sunday September 13                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ELIMINATION FINAL<br>(4th v 5th) - Winner advances to Minor Semi Final, loser eliminated.         | MINOR SEMI FINAL<br>(Winner Elim. F v Loser Qual F) - Winner advances to Preliminary Final, loser eliminated. | PRELIMINARY FINAL<br>(Winner Minor SF v loser Major SF) - Winner advances to Grand Final, loser eliminated.               |
| QUALIFYING FINAL<br>(2nd v 3rd) - Winner advances to major semi final, loser to Minor Semi Final. | MAJOR SEMI FINAL<br>(1st v winner Qual.F) - Winner advances to Grand Final, loser to Preliminary Final.       | Sunday September 20<br>GRAND FINAL<br>(Winner Major SF v winner Prelim.F) - Winner declared new Victorian state champion. |



# Oh Francis!



FRANCIS AWARITEFE PLAYING FOR MELBOURNE CROATIA AGAINST SOUTH MELBOURNE

BY GREG BLAKE

The eyebrows were raised ever so slightly when one of South Melbourne's toughest adversaries of recent years strutted in to Middle Park and un-packed his kit bag for the first time.

The man who has teased, taunted and tested South Melbourne's best in successive finals series has now joined the

fold - and big Francis Awaritefe couldn't be happier.

"It's great - I love it", Awaritefe says of his surprise off-season move to Souths from Melbourne Croatia.

"It's definitely a challenge and I think the change of environment is going to be good for me".

Awaritefe started training with

the Blues three weeks ago but he is still unsure of the role coach Jim Pyrgolios has earmarked for him.

"I'm not 100 percent sure at this stage, but I think it could be a case of the team reverting to a basic 4-4-2 with myself and Paul (Trimboli) playing up front", he explained.



THOMASTOWN V GEORGE CROSS

## VIC CHAT

BY GREG BLAKE

WHAT chance Preston's all-time NSL top scorer Steve Smith making a comeback to the big time?

Smith, now 30, has been suggested as a surprise buy by Melbourne Croatia for the coming summer, to replace departed Francis Awaritefe.

Smith has spent the past three years leading the Brunswick Juventus attack in the Victorian Premier League.

◆◆◆

GREEN GULLY's new head coach, former Blues manager, Hunter, is expected to arrive in the Premier League this week.

Hunter, who has been a successful coach in the Victorian Premier League, is expected to bring a new style of play to the club.

"There should be no problem with extending my loan period into the finals", Hunter said.

"I've played with the club for most of the season and I would be happy to go on and make the team."



PRESTON V ALTONA

◆◆◆

THOMASTOWN will rise from the ashes of a disappointing 1992 campaign if Len McKendry, who replaced John Yzendoorn back in Round 10, is retained as coach for next season.

According to Devils star John Mihailidis the club was always going to struggle after getting off to such a poor start this season.

"Len's a professional and if he stays on next year I've got no doubt that we can go all the way", Mihailidis said.

◆◆◆

SASH Becvinovski is almost certain to join Adelaide City for the coming NSL season.

The 1991 and 1992 Premier League top marksman put in a disappointing game when City's Zoran Matic came to watch Green Gully's round 25 clash with Sunshine George Cross.

But the talented 19 year-old was suffering from a virus going into the match and only took the field in the knowledge that Matic was there to scout him.

Morwell hasn't lost interest, but Becvinovski is believed to be keen on the move to South Australia.

◆◆◆

MORWELL and former Heidelberg and Melbourne Croatia veteran Willie Herd is returning to his native Scotland.

The livewire midfielder has decided to return home after five years in Australia but is keeping his options open with the NSL-bound Falcons.

Herd, who says he is homesick, has suffered with damage to both knees in recent months.

◆◆◆

TWO NSL clubs have recently been checking the form of 23 year-old Brian Vasev, goalkeeper with Victorian First Division club Ringwood City.

The former Oxford United apprentice has impressed many astute judges with his form in 1992.

◆◆◆

WHOOOPS!

In last week's Victorian votes at the Fawkner - Bulleen game we gave two points to the Lions' Mick Vesnaver who, of course, didn't even play in that game.

The two votes in the ABSW award should have been credited to Anthony Grbac.

◆◆◆

SUNSHINE George Cross coach Ken Wagstaff has got to be kidding.

Wagstaff was quoted in the Melbourne press as saying that Preston's new 33 year-old former English First Division striker Billy Whitehurst, was "better than anything else" he's seen in Australia.

Whitehurst has made 425 league appearances with the likes of Oxford, Sheffield United, Newcastle, Reading, Sunderland and Hull.

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# Finals series

## PREMIER LEAGUE FINAL ROUND SCORES:

Croydon City 2  
(Scobrogna, Kaukainen) -  
Knox City 2 (House, Van  
Egmond); Oakleigh 1  
(Ousalkas) - Altona Gate 2  
(Velkovski, Talevski);  
Thomastown 1 (own goal)  
- North Geelong 1  
(Georgievski); Green  
Gully 4 (Belic,  
Gymnopoulos,  
Becvinovski, Hunter) -  
Albion 1 (Spiteri); Bulleen  
3 (Patterson, Valentis,  
Tuck) - Sunshine George  
Cross 3 (Gilder,  
Sherifovski, Waddell); St  
Albans 1 (Marth) -  
Fawkner (Anezakis,  
Gjindic); Morwell Falcons  
1 (A.Cassar) - Brunswick  
Juventus 1 (Smith).

## TOP VOTE-GETTERS:

- 12 - Becvinovski (GG)\*  
Nicoski (AG)\*  
Waddell (SGC)\*  
11 - Wright (MF)  
8 - Cristaldo (Thom)  
D.Cervinski (Nth G)  
Giaccherini (Thom)  
Patsaman (Alb)  
7 - Lutgens (KC)  
Horvat (Nth G)  
Herd (MF)  
Gilder (SGC)  
Markovski (Alb)  
Klepac (Croy)  
Bonk (Nth G)  
Marth (StA)  
Thodis (Bul)  
6 - Silic (St A)  
Retre (Fawk)  
Chalmers (KC)  
Goutzioulis (Oak)  
Corvan (Juve)  
O'Donnell (Oak)  
Cianter (GG)  
De Amicis (Juve)  
Van Egmond (KC)  
Carter (Alb)  
Anastasiadis (Fawk)  
Chetcuti (GG)

\* Becvinovski wins the  
award on countback -  
see separate story.

## TOP SCORERS:

- 17 - Becvinovski (GG)  
12 - Hunter (GG)  
11 - Kutlesovski (AG)  
Harrison (MF)  
Tuck (Bul)  
Patterson (Bul)  
10 - A.Cervinski (Nth G)

## PREMIER LEAGUE FIRST ROUND FINALS PREVIEW

BY GREG BLAKE

Fawkner's Jukes Road home ground will play host to history in the making this Sunday as the Victorian Premier League finals series kicks off for 1992.

For the first time Premier League finals games become a part of the race for the official Victorian championship and this weekend the five team race will be reduced to a field of four on Elimination and Qualifying Final Sunday.

At 12.30 pm the cut-throat Elimination Final features home side Fawkner against the Green Gully goal machine.

In the second game of what shapes as a splendid double-header long-time Italian rivals Bulleen and Brunswick Juventus do battle in the Qualifying Final for the right to meet minor premiers North Geelong on Sunday week.

The second game kicks-off at 3pm and both of the opening round finals matches will be broadcast live in metropolitan Melbourne on Radio 3AK's 'Super Soccer Sunday'.

The early game promises to be a closely fought affair.

Gully has not so much beaten sides, but blown them away as the Derek Hunter - Sash Becvinovski show has hit full stride late in the year.

But Fawkner has appeared to have the measure of the Green goal machine in their two clashes this season, beating Gully 1-0 at Olympic Park in March and stealing a scoreless draw at the Gully Reserve in the return game in May.

The Blues limped into the finals but will relish getting a finals run on their home park to open the campaign.

Manny Anezakis and Tony Schipano will likely get the jobs on Becvinovski and Hunter respectively and those duels will clearly hold the key to the game.

Gully plays a fine brand of football and will keep coming all day, but any side which can shut down that 29 goal partnership will have the Green's measure.

Bulleen and Juventus, Sunday's Qualifying Final opponents, may boast the finals double-chance but don't expect any less fierce an encounter when they hit Jukes Road on Sunday.

There is little between these two sides, having finished one and two in the title race last season and following up in 1992 with level points on the championship table.

But Juventus is travelling ominously well at the moment, going undefeated for eight weeks in a testing run up to the finals.

If the Zebras aren't in the class of 1991, they aren't far away and Bulleen might find that out on Sunday.

The Lions rolled Juventus in convincing fashion in the championship re-match in March, but Bulleen was strolling in those days.

Juventus is now the form side and with the return of Fausto Di Amicis from suspension Billy Rogers' side will be as close to full strength as it has been all season.

Bulleen's chances rely on the Robbie Krajacic moulded Bulleen defence holding the triple-prong threat of Steve Smith, Sean Lane and Dale White.

If they can be contained and Juve old boy Scott Patterson can turn in an explosive display in the middle Bulleen might just get home in a thriller.

## VICTORIAN AWARD WINNER

BY GREG BLAKE

Victorian Premier League top scorer Sash Becvinovski is the ABSW - Pascoe Vale Sports Scene Most Exciting Player of 1992.

Becvinovski took the honours on a countback following a dramatic last round of voting left three players dead level on 12 votes each.

Becvinovski squeaked over the line ahead of Sunshine George Cross midfielder John Waddell, who also polled votes last weekend, and long-time leader Peter Nicoski from Altona Gate.

Becvinovski will be presented with his ABSW trophy and a \$500 cheque, both compliments of the Pascoe Vale Sports Scene (413-415 Bell St., Pascoe Vale) at half time on grand final day.

ABSW will print a full list of vote-winners plus a feature on winner Becvinovski in an up-coming edition.

The countback system was called into action following 'Slashing Sash's' tremendous last round effort against Albion.

Unlike traditional best-and-fairest awards, the ABSW countback system does not favour the most consistent players.

As the award name indicates, the ABSW award is for the league's most exciting player and Becvinovski, with four clear three-vote performances during the year, beat Waddell and Nicoski hands-down.

ABSW scribes were at every Premier League home-and-away match played this season and each week they awarded a player from each competing team votes.

## Victorian Fixtures

### PREMIER LEAGUE

SUNDAY, 29th AUGUST  
FINALS SERIES  
Elimination Final 4th v 5th  
Qualifying Final 2nd v 3rd  
(Played as a double-header)

### STATE 1

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 24  
Moorabbin v Mordialloc, Richmond v  
Springvale City, Altona City v Wernebe  
City

SUNDAY, 30th AUGUST  
Frankston Pines v Northcote City,  
Caullfield City v Ringwood City, Westgate  
v Western Suburbs, Doveton v Bell Park.

### STATE 2

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 27  
Kew v Sunbury United, Chessna v  
Melbourne City, Waverley City v Box Hill  
Inter, South Caullfield v East  
Brunsv. Avonhoe, Clifton Hill v Doncaster  
Rovers, Nunawading City v Berridge  
Greens, Broadmeadows City v  
Sandringham City.

### STATE 3

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 27  
Brighton v Seaford United, Clamda v  
Suns Heights Pokona, Regent bye, Cono  
Geelong v Utd v Coburg Moreland Utd,  
Dandenong v Lator United, Etham/Dia  
Valley Utd v Moorabbin City, Fitzroy City  
v Geelong, South Dandenong v  
Springvale Utd.

### STATE 4

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 24  
North Coburg United v Yarraville,  
Heidelberg City v Langwarrin, Hawthorn  
Citizens v Geelong Rangers, Mornington

### PROVISIONAL 1

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 24  
Altona East v Melton, Forest Hill v Jolor,  
Brunswick City v Marvorn City, Brandon  
Park v Knox Park, Berwick City v  
Springvale Condors, Frankston United v  
Westvale, Yallourn v Wilmamstown.

### PROVISIONAL 2

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 24  
Hampton Park v Hoppers Crossing,  
Glenroy v Keysborough, East Richmond  
v East Geelong, Eastern Park v Meadow  
Park, Lyndale Utd v North Sunshine,  
Ballarat v Nth Glenroy St Marks,  
Warrnambool v Uni Of Melbourne

### PROVISIONAL 3

SATURDAY, 29th  
AUGUST ROUND 23  
Ringwood Rovers v Monash Uni, South  
Warrnambool v Monbulk, Port United v Old  
Scottish, Malvern Lemnos bye, Camus  
United v Kew Eagles.

### PROVISIONAL 4

SUNDAY, 30th AUGUST  
ROUND 21  
Kew United v Waverley Wanderers,  
Upfield v Beaumans, Riversdale v  
Diggers Rest, Oakleigh United v East  
Kew, Melbourne University v Latrobe  
University, Sunshine Park v Collingwood City.

### PROVISIONAL 5

SUNDAY, 30th AUGUST  
ROUND 21  
Doncaster Inter bye, Thornbury Furlan  
Utd v Albert Park, Northern United v  
Broadmeadows Utd, Epping Concorde v  
ram Old Boys, Endeavour Hills v  
Diamond Valley, RMIT v Balwyn City.

## PREMIER LEAGUE

|                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Nth. Geelong    | 26 | 12 | 11 | 3  | 45 | 25 | 35 |
| Bulleen         | 26 | 13 | 7  | 6  | 39 | 21 | 33 |
| Brunsv. U. Juv. | 26 | 11 | 11 | 4  | 35 | 25 | 33 |
| Green Gully     | 26 | 10 | 12 | 4  | 51 | 25 | 32 |
| Fawkner         | 26 | 13 | 5  | 8  | 30 | 27 | 31 |
| Sun. G. Cross   | 26 | 10 | 10 | 6  | 38 | 31 | 30 |
| Albion          | 26 | 13 | 3  | 10 | 35 | 34 | 29 |
| Morwell Fals.   | 26 | 9  | 10 | 7  | 38 | 30 | 28 |
| Thomastown      | 26 | 10 | 7  | 9  | 31 | 34 | 27 |
| St. Albans      | 26 | 8  | 6  | 12 | 29 | 32 | 22 |
| Altona Gate     | 26 | 6  | 8  | 12 | 30 | 34 | 20 |
| Croydon City    | 26 | 4  | 9  | 13 | 30 | 49 | 17 |
| Knox City       | 26 | 5  | 6  | 15 | 27 | 49 | 16 |
| Oakleigh        | 26 | 4  | 3  | 19 | 22 | 66 | 11 |

### PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES

|                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Altona Gate     | 26 | 17 | 4  | 3  | 38 | 35 | 35 |
| Bulleen         | 26 | 13 | 7  | 6  | 39 | 21 | 33 |
| Brunsv. U. Juv. | 26 | 11 | 11 | 4  | 35 | 25 | 33 |
| Green Gully     | 26 | 10 | 12 | 4  | 51 | 25 | 32 |
| Fawkner         | 26 | 13 | 5  | 8  | 30 | 27 | 31 |
| Sun. G. Cross   | 26 | 10 | 10 | 6  | 38 | 31 | 30 |
| Albion          | 26 | 13 | 3  | 10 | 35 | 34 | 29 |
| Morwell Fals.   | 26 | 9  | 10 | 7  | 38 | 30 | 28 |
| Thomastown      | 26 | 10 | 7  | 9  | 31 | 34 | 27 |
| St. Albans      | 26 | 8  | 6  | 12 | 29 | 32 | 22 |
| Altona Gate     | 26 | 6  | 8  | 12 | 30 | 34 | 20 |
| Croydon City    | 26 | 4  | 9  | 13 | 30 | 49 | 17 |
| Knox City       | 26 | 5  | 6  | 15 | 27 | 49 | 16 |
| Oakleigh        | 26 | 4  | 3  | 19 | 22 | 66 | 11 |

### STATE ONE FIRSTS

|                 |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Spring City     | 23 | 20 | 2 | 1  | 53 | 14 | 42 |
| Caullfield City | 23 | 16 | 3 | 4  | 57 | 23 | 35 |
| Wernebe City    | 23 | 11 | 8 | 4  | 30 | 17 | 30 |
| Frank Pines     | 23 | 12 | 4 | 7  | 49 | 40 | 28 |
| Westgate        | 23 | 10 | 7 | 6  | 37 | 23 | 27 |
| Richmond        | 23 | 10 | 5 | 9  | 32 | 22 | 25 |
| Bell Park       | 23 | 9  | 6 | 6  | 34 | 22 | 24 |
| Altona City     | 23 | 8  | 5 | 10 | 26 | 26 | 21 |
| Northcote City  | 23 | 8  | 4 | 11 | 29 | 35 | 20 |
| Western Sub.    | 23 | 6  | 8 | 9  | 22 | 30 | 19 |
| Mordialloc      | 23 | 6  | 6 | 11 | 18 | 32 | 18 |
| Rwood City      | 23 | 4  | 5 | 14 | 22 | 43 | 13 |
| Mordialloc      | 23 | 3  | 5 | 15 | 21 | 43 | 13 |
| Doveton         | 23 | 2  | 3 | 16 | 14 | 57 | 7  |

### STATE ONE RESERVES

|                 |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Spring City     | 23 | 16 | 5 | 2  | 59 | 15 | 37 |
| Caullfield City | 23 | 14 | 4 | 5  | 48 | 16 | 32 |
| Wernebe City    | 23 | 13 | 4 | 6  | 62 | 40 | 30 |
| Frank Pines     | 23 | 11 | 6 | 5  | 39 | 30 | 28 |
| Caullfield City | 23 | 10 | 4 | 9  | 37 | 30 | 24 |
| Northcote City  | 23 | 10 | 4 | 9  | 34 | 30 | 24 |
| Western Sub.    | 23 | 9  | 5 | 12 | 31 | 43 | 23 |
| Mordialloc      | 23 | 6  | 8 | 9  | 35 | 37 | 23 |
| Rwood City      | 23 | 6  | 8 | 9  | 24 | 36 | 20 |
| Rwood City      | 23 | 7  | 5 | 11 | 46 | 45 | 19 |
| Frank Pines     | 23 | 8  | 4 | 13 | 46 | 49 | 16 |
| Macquarie       | 23 | 5  | 6 | 12 | 32 | 51 | 16 |
| Westgate        | 23 | 7  | 2 | 14 | 28 | 64 | 16 |
| Doveton         | 23 | 3  | 3 | 19 | 25 | 74 | 7  |

### STATE TWO FIRSTS

|                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Doncas L. Rev.  | 26 | 16 | 5  | 5  | 41 | 26 | 37 |
| Bent Green      | 26 | 10 | 10 | 3  | 43 | 31 | 38 |
| Port Melbourne  | 26 | 15 | 6  | 5  | 45 | 35 | 30 |
| Broadmeadows    | 26 | 15 | 5  | 6  | 44 | 35 | 30 |
| Sunbury Utd     | 26 | 11 | 9  | 6  | 45 | 30 | 31 |
| Caullfield City | 26 | 11 | 8  | 7  | 47 | 41 | 30 |
| Cheltenham      | 26 | 12 | 4  | 10 | 47 | 37 | 28 |
| Frank Pines     | 26 | 10 | 9  | 3  | 36 | 36 | 34 |
| Bent Green      | 26 | 9  | 6  | 11 | 40 | 43 | 24 |
| Sandham City    | 26 | 9  | 5  | 12 | 31 | 43 | 23 |
| Marvorn City    | 26 | 7  | 8  | 11 | 23 | 28 | 22 |
| Waverley City   | 26 | 5  | 11 | 10 | 25 | 32 | 21 |
| St. Caullfield  | 26 | 7  | 5  | 14 | 31 | 40 | 19 |
| Essendon City   | 26 | 7  | 5  | 14 | 24 | 37 | 17 |
| Kew             | 26 | 6  | 9  | 14 | 28 | 45 | 17 |
| Melbourne City  | 26 | 3  | 8  | 15 | 16 | 50 | 14 |

### STATE TWO RESERVES

|                 |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Clifton Hill    | 26 | 18 | 3 | 5  | 71 | 35 | 39 |
| Port Melbourne  | 26 | 18 | 3 | 5  | 54 | 72 | 36 |
| Bent Green      | 26 | 15 | 5 | 5  | 74 | 40 | 33 |
| Port Melbourne  | 26 | 14 | 5 | 6  | 44 | 21 | 33 |
| Broadmeadows    | 26 | 14 | 4 | 6  | 52 | 30 | 35 |
| Essendon City   | 26 | 15 | 2 | 8  | 45 | 32 | 32 |
| Sunbury Utd     | 26 | 14 | 2 | 10 | 51 | 38 | 30 |
| Nunawading City | 26 | 12 | 2 | 12 | 47 | 45 | 26 |
| Waverley City   | 26 | 10 | 4 | 12 | 41 | 49 | 24 |
| Bent Green      | 26 | 9  | 6 | 11 | 35 | 44 | 23 |
| Brundage        | 26 | 11 | 1 | 12 | 47 | 44 | 23 |
| Cheltenham      | 26 | 11 | 1 | 12 | 47 | 44 | 23 |
| Kew             | 26 | 8  | 8 | 15 | 32 | 43 | 18 |
| Sandham City    | 26 | 4  | 4 | 18 | 39 | 64 | 12 |
| St. Caullfield  | 26 | 3  | 4 | 19 | 37 | 58 | 10 |
| Melbourne City  | 26 | 3  | 1 | 21 | 19 | 77 | 7  |

### STATE THREE FIRSTS

|                |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Spring Utd.    | 24 | 16 | 8  | 0  | 58 | 22 | 40 |
| Clamda         | 24 | 15 | 8  | 1  | 43 | 18 | 38 |
| Regent         | 25 | 13 | 8  | 4  | 31 | 34 | 34 |
| El. Dam. Valt. | 24 | 11 | 9  | 4  | 42 | 22 | 31 |
| Sunbury Utd    | 25 | 10 | 8  | 7  | 30 | 25 | 28 |
| Lator Utd      | 24 | 6  | 12 | 6  | 32 | 34 | 26 |
| St. Dandenong  | 24 | 8  | 8  | 8  | 26 | 27 | 24 |
| Moorabbin City | 24 | 10 | 4  | 10 | 25 | 31 | 24 |
| Geelong        | 24 | 10 | 2  | 12 | 31 | 30 | 22 |
| Dandenong      | 24 | 6  | 9  | 9  | 26 | 36 | 21 |
| Sunshine P. na | 25 | 7  | 6  | 12 | 29 | 45 | 20 |
| Cono Geelong   | 24 | 5  | 9  | 11 | 23 | 29 | 17 |
| Fitzroy City   | 24 | 5  | 6  | 13 | 32 | 39 | 16 |
| Cob. More      | 25 | 6  | 8  | 15 | 26 | 58 | 15 |
| Brighton       | 24 | 4  | 2  | 15 | 30 | 56 | 10 |

### STATE THREE RESERVES

|                |    |    |   |    |    |     |    |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|
| Regent         | 25 | 18 | 3 | 4  | 60 | 18  | 39 |
| Moorabbin City | 25 | 15 | 5 | 3  | 58 | 20  | 35 |
| Seaford Utd    | 25 | 14 | 5 | 6  | 59 | 29  | 33 |
| El. Dam. Valt. | 24 | 14 | 4 | 6  | 48 | 28  | 32 |
| Spring Utd     | 25 | 12 | 5 | 6  | 59 | 29  | 32 |
| Clamda         | 24 | 13 | 8 | 8  | 46 | 23  | 29 |
| Dandenong      | 24 | 12 | 8 | 8  | 43 | 29  | 29 |
| St. Dandenong  | 24 | 10 | 4 | 9  | 54 | 39  | 24 |
| Geelong        | 24 | 6  | 4 | 11 | 49 | 48  | 22 |
| Fitzroy City   | 24 | 6  | 6 | 12 | 45 | 53  | 18 |
| Brighton       | 24 | 6  | 5 | 13 | 29 | 57  | 17 |
| Cob. More      | 25 | 5  | 4 | 16 | 34 | 70  | 14 |
| Suns Heights   | 25 | 3  | 1 | 21 | 25 | 85  | 7  |
| Cono Geelong   | 24 | 1  | 3 | 20 | 23 | 114 | 5  |

### STATE FOUR FIRSTS

|                  |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Azroy Crt        | 24 | 6  | 6 | 12 | 45 | 23 | 38 |
| Brighton         | 24 | 6  | 5 | 13 | 29 | 25 | 34 |
| Colt More        | 25 | 5  | 4 | 16 | 34 | 24 | 39 |
| Suns Heights     | 25 | 3  | 1 | 21 | 25 | 26 | 34 |
| Carlo Geelong    | 24 | 1  | 3 | 20 | 23 | 1  | 3  |
| STATE FOUR FIRST |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |
| Pascoe Vale      | 23 | 19 | 0 | 3  | 62 | 22 | 38 |
| St Wernbee       | 23 | 13 | 5 | 5  | 52 | 27 | 31 |
| Yarraville       | 23 | 11 | 3 | 4  | 44 | 27 | 29 |
| Yarraville       | 23 | 11 | 2 | 5  | 44 | 27 | 29 |
| Yarraville       | 23 | 11 | 2 | 5  | 44 | 27 | 29 |
| Yarraville       | 23 | 11 | 2 | 5  | 44 | 27 | 29 |
| Kannigai Utd     | 23 | 9  | 6 | 8  | 36 | 3  | 3  |
| Yarraville       | 23 | 9  | 6 | 8  | 36 | 3  | 3  |



# VICTORIAN JUNIOR TABLES

## UNDER 11

### CENTRAL A

|                | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | PT |
|----------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| EAST RICH A    | 11 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 3  | 23 |
| SANDRINGHAM A  | 11 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 7  | 18 |
| BEAUMARIS A    | 12 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 12 | 17 |
| BRIDGTON       | 12 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 31 | 34 | 13 |
| ALBERT PARK    | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 17 | 25 | 9  |
| CHALMERS       | 11 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 14 | 30 | 7  |
| CHALMERS       | 12 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 14 | 34 | 6  |
| NORTH GREENS A | 11 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 3  | 07 | 1  |

### NORTHERN

|               | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A   | PT |
|---------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|
| BRUNN UTD JUV | 15 | 12 | 0 | 2  | 63 | 6   | 28 |
| THOMASTOWN    | 15 | 12 | 0 | 2  | 55 | 7   | 25 |
| LALOR UTD     | 15 | 12 | 0 | 3  | 65 | 14  | 26 |
| NTH RESERVOIR | 15 | 9  | 3 | 2  | 47 | 15  | 21 |
| PRESTON       | 15 | 8  | 3 | 4  | 34 | 25  | 19 |
| LALOR         | 15 | 5  | 4 | 6  | 26 | 34  | 14 |
| WINDOORA      | 14 | 3  | 0 | 9  | 27 | 42  | 10 |
| REGENT        | 14 | 3  | 1 | 10 | 12 | 36  | 7  |
| NORTHOTE CITY | 15 | 0  | 1 | 14 | 2  | 72  | 1  |
| UDON PARK     | 15 | 0  | 1 | 14 | 4  | 103 | 1  |

### CENTRAL B

|                 | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| CLAYTON         | 15 | 15 | 0 | 0  | 32 | 1  | 30 |
| EAST BENTLEIGH  | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1  | 37 | 23 | 21 |
| BEAUMARIS B     | 15 | 10 | 4 | 1  | 43 | 21 | 20 |
| CLAYFIELD CITY  | 15 | 7  | 2 | 6  | 28 | 21 | 16 |
| CAULFIELD UTD   | 14 | 7  | 2 | 5  | 34 | 40 | 16 |
| SANDRINGHAM B   | 15 | 7  | 4 | 4  | 34 | 34 | 14 |
| CLARENDON       | 14 | 5  | 2 | 7  | 22 | 30 | 12 |
| CLAYTON         | 15 | 4  | 1 | 11 | 17 | 40 | 8  |
| EAST RICHMOND B | 15 | 3  | 2 | 10 | 17 | 60 | 8  |
| BENT GREENS B   | 13 | 1  | 1 | 11 | 6  | 54 | 3  |

### SOUTHERN

|               | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|---------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| CHelsea       | 15 | 14 | 1 | 0  | 81 | 13 | 28 |
| MORNINGTON    | 15 | 10 | 5 | 0  | 40 | 15 | 21 |
| JANGWARREN    | 15 | 8  | 0 | 7  | 40 | 25 | 18 |
| HAMPTON PARK  | 15 | 7  | 0 | 8  | 37 | 38 | 19 |
| DANDENONG     | 15 | 4  | 4 | 7  | 31 | 31 | 18 |
| FRANKSTON UTD | 14 | 3  | 5 | 6  | 29 | 23 | 13 |
| CONLEY        | 14 | 3  | 3 | 7  | 25 | 28 | 12 |
| SEAFORD UTD   | 15 | 4  | 1 | 10 | 17 | 31 | 9  |
| BATTER        | 15 | 4  | 1 | 10 | 27 | 54 | 9  |
| BERRICK CITY  | 15 | 0  | 1 | 14 | 0  | 85 | 1  |

### STH-EAST

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| BETHAM UTD     | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1  | 32 | 4  | 30 |
| BRUNN UTD JUV  | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1  | 37 | 6  | 30 |
| DOUG ROVERS    | 15 | 10 | 4 | 1  | 31 | 34 | 16 |
| DOUG ROVERS    | 15 | 7  | 2 | 6  | 41 | 38 | 16 |
| POWELL         | 15 | 6  | 0 | 7  | 48 | 48 | 16 |
| MURRAY UTD     | 15 | 6  | 0 | 9  | 31 | 25 | 12 |
| DOUG ROVERS    | 15 | 5  | 0 | 10 | 25 | 42 | 10 |
| DOUG ROVERS    | 15 | 2  | 0 | 13 | 12 | 85 | 4  |
| HEDELSBERG UTD | 15 | 0  | 0 | 15 | 5  | 70 | 0  |

### EASTERN

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A   | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|
| CLAYTON CITY   | 15 | 13 | 0 | 2  | 37 | 7   | 30 |
| ELTHAM UTD     | 15 | 12 | 2 | 1  | 37 | 11  | 24 |
| BULLER         | 15 | 11 | 3 | 1  | 45 | 15  | 22 |
| BRUNN UTD JUV  | 14 | 9  | 0 | 5  | 57 | 26  | 18 |
| SHERROCKE      | 15 | 7  | 0 | 8  | 54 | 31  | 14 |
| WOODROSE       | 15 | 7  | 0 | 8  | 37 | 20  | 14 |
| HEDELSBERG UTD | 15 | 4  | 1 | 10 | 30 | 37  | 11 |
| ROCK PARK UTD  | 15 | 1  | 0 | 14 | 10 | 105 | 2  |
| STH SPRINGVALE | 14 | 0  | 0 | 14 | 1  | 112 | 0  |

### NTH-WEST

|                 | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A   | PT |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|
| ESSENDON CITY   | 15 | 14 | 1 | 0  | 38 | 4   | 28 |
| SUN. HEIGHTS    | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1  | 35 | 8   | 28 |
| SUN. GEORGE X   | 14 | 10 | 1 | 3  | 33 | 11  | 21 |
| FARNHURST       | 14 | 7  | 1 | 6  | 48 | 27  | 15 |
| NTH GLENDROV    | 15 | 7  | 1 | 7  | 45 | 40  | 15 |
| GREEN GULLY B   | 15 | 5  | 3 | 7  | 32 | 30  | 13 |
| NTH GLENDROV    | 15 | 5  | 1 | 9  | 11 | 38  | 11 |
| SUNSHINE PARK   | 15 | 3  | 2 | 10 | 14 | 52  | 8  |
| WESTGATE        | 14 | 2  | 1 | 11 | 14 | 87  | 5  |
| WESTERN SUBURBS | 14 | 0  | 1 | 13 | 1  | 118 | 1  |

### WESTERN

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A   | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|
| STODDARD PARK  | 17 | 13 | 2 | 2  | 57 | 11  | 30 |
| ALTONA CITY    | 15 | 13 | 0 | 2  | 74 | 12  | 28 |
| MELBOURNE CITY | 17 | 11 | 4 | 2  | 46 | 12  | 26 |
| BELL PARK      | 17 | 10 | 3 | 4  | 45 | 30  | 21 |
| GREEN GULLY A  | 17 | 10 | 2 | 5  | 47 | 21  | 22 |
| MELB. CROATIA  | 17 | 10 | 1 | 6  | 45 | 34  | 21 |
| STALBAM        | 17 | 7  | 2 | 8  | 36 | 36  | 16 |
| ALTONA GATE    | 17 | 7  | 1 | 9  | 43 | 37  | 15 |
| WESTVALE       | 16 | 3  | 2 | 11 | 18 | 86  | 8  |
| ALBION         | 16 | 2  | 1 | 14 | 12 | 71  | 4  |
| FARNVILLE      | 16 | 2  | 0 | 12 | 8  | 91  | 4  |
| ALTONA EAST    | 17 | 1  | 2 | 14 | 12 | 112 | 6  |

## UNDER 12

### EASTERN A

|                 | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| SPRINGVALE CITY | 15 | 13 | 2 | 0  | 35 | 11 | 28 |
| LANDWARRIN      | 15 | 12 | 1 | 2  | 46 | 10 | 25 |
| CLAYTON         | 15 | 10 | 1 | 4  | 38 | 22 | 21 |
| DOUG ROVERS     | 15 | 8  | 2 | 5  | 35 | 32 | 18 |
| STH SPRINGVALE  | 15 | 7  | 1 | 7  | 32 | 25 | 17 |
| BRUNN UTD       | 15 | 6  | 1 | 8  | 32 | 30 | 15 |
| LYNDALU UTD     | 15 | 5  | 1 | 9  | 17 | 42 | 9  |
| KNICK CITY      | 15 | 2  | 1 | 12 | 17 | 35 | 8  |
| SEAFORD UTD     | 15 | 2  | 1 | 12 | 14 | 50 | 8  |
| MURRAY UTD      | 15 | 1  | 1 | 13 | 18 | 56 | 3  |

### CEN-STH A

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| LAUNCELOT A    | 15 | 11 | 2 | 2  | 54 | 10 | 24 |
| EAST BENTLEIGH | 15 | 8  | 3 | 4  | 53 | 25 | 19 |
| CRANBOURNE     | 15 | 8  | 3 | 4  | 35 | 18 | 19 |
| MORNINGTON     | 15 | 7  | 3 | 5  | 31 | 26 | 17 |
| BEAUMARIS      | 15 | 7  | 3 | 5  | 34 | 30 | 17 |
| BRIDGTON       | 15 | 6  | 1 | 8  | 34 | 32 | 17 |
| SANDRINGHAM    | 14 | 7  | 0 | 7  | 31 | 34 | 15 |
| HAMPTON PARK   | 14 | 6  | 0 | 8  | 21 | 36 | 8  |
| ALBERT PARK    | 13 | 5  | 0 | 10 | 13 | 39 | 8  |
| CLARENDON      | 14 | 5  | 2 | 7  | 7  | 45 | 4  |

### EASTERN B

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| HEDELSBERG UTD | 17 | 13 | 2 | 2  | 60 | 13 | 28 |
| CLAY WARRIN    | 17 | 11 | 4 | 2  | 53 | 23 | 26 |
| CLAYTON        | 17 | 10 | 3 | 4  | 47 | 18 | 25 |
| BRANDON PARK   | 17 | 8  | 5 | 4  | 34 | 18 | 23 |
| DOUG ROVERS    | 17 | 10 | 2 | 5  | 33 | 18 | 22 |
| ELTHAM UTD     | 17 | 6  | 1 | 10 | 30 | 34 | 15 |
| KNICK CITY     | 17 | 6  | 1 | 10 | 28 | 31 | 15 |
| SPRINGVALE UTD | 17 | 7  | 3 | 7  | 24 | 24 | 16 |
| SHERROCKE      | 17 | 6  | 3 | 8  | 26 | 32 | 14 |
| WINDOORA       | 15 | 3  | 0 | 12 | 8  | 51 | 6  |
| RIVINGTON CITY | 16 | 1  | 0 | 15 | 9  | 70 | 2  |
| WOODROSE       | 16 | 1  | 0 | 15 | 5  | 86 | 2  |

### CEN-STH B

|                 | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| BATTER          | 17 | 15 | 1 | 1  | 81 | 10 | 31 |
| CONLEY          | 17 | 13 | 2 | 2  | 82 | 18 | 28 |
| POWELL          | 17 | 13 | 2 | 2  | 78 | 18 | 28 |
| BENT GREENS     | 17 | 8  | 4 | 5  | 38 | 20 | 20 |
| FRANKSTON PWS   | 15 | 8  | 1 | 6  | 38 | 20 | 19 |
| CARRUM UTD      | 17 | 7  | 4 | 6  | 38 | 19 | 18 |
| WARRIVILLE CITY | 16 | 7  | 1 | 8  | 38 | 15 | 15 |
| HASTINGS        | 16 | 4  | 4 | 7  | 30 | 32 | 12 |
| SPRING CONDOORS | 16 | 4  | 3 | 8  | 11 | 32 | 11 |
| WINDOORA        | 16 | 2  | 4 | 10 | 11 | 72 | 8  |
| FLAMINGO        | 17 | 5  | 1 | 11 | 9  | 64 | 6  |
| MORRILLLOC      | 16 | 0  | 0 | 16 | 0  | 50 | 0  |

### NORTHERN

|               | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A   | PT |
|---------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|----|
| NTH GLENDROV  | 17 | 14 | 2 | 1  | 73 | 7   | 30 |
| FARNHURST     | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1  | 67 | 8   | 28 |
| BR. UTD JUV   | 17 | 12 | 2 | 3  | 68 | 10  | 28 |
| LALOR         | 17 | 8  | 4 | 5  | 45 | 32  | 20 |
| ESSENDON CITY | 17 | 8  | 0 | 9  | 47 | 31  | 18 |
| LALOR UTD     | 17 | 7  | 3 | 7  | 38 | 35  | 17 |
| NTH RESERVOIR | 17 | 7  | 3 | 7  | 38 | 39  | 16 |
| REGENT        | 17 | 7  | 2 | 8  | 34 | 40  | 16 |
| BIGANZAL UTD  | 17 | 6  | 2 | 9  | 30 | 40  | 16 |
| THOMASTOWN    | 17 | 5  | 3 | 9  | 21 | 40  | 16 |
| PRESTON       | 17 | 5  | 3 | 9  | 14 | 58  | 7  |
| MILL PARK     | 16 | 1  | 1 | 14 | 18 | 112 | 3  |

### NTH-WEST

|                 | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| NTH GLENDROV    | 17 | 14 | 2 | 1  | 61 | 13 | 30 |
| NORTHOTE CITY   | 17 | 13 | 1 | 3  | 66 | 13 | 27 |
| BELL PARK       | 17 | 12 | 1 | 4  | 65 | 15 | 27 |
| ALBION          | 17 | 11 | 2 | 4  | 60 | 18 | 24 |
| STH WERRIBEE    | 17 | 9  | 2 | 6  | 48 | 21 | 20 |
| WERRIBEE CITY   | 16 | 7  | 1 | 8  | 34 | 30 | 15 |
| WESTERN SUBURBS | 16 | 6  | 0 | 10 | 28 | 31 | 15 |
| EAST GLENDROV   | 17 | 7  | 1 | 9  | 38 | 40 | 15 |
| HOPKINS CROOK   | 16 | 6  | 0 | 10 | 17 | 42 | 12 |
| WESTVALE        | 16 | 3  | 2 | 11 | 18 | 30 | 9  |
| PASCOE VALLEY   | 15 | 1  | 0 | 14 | 9  | 72 | 2  |
| MURRAY UTD      | 15 | 0  | 0 | 15 | 7  | 90 | 0  |

### WESTERN A

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| MELB. CROATIA  | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1  | 88 | 3  | 28 |
| SUNSH. HEIGHTS | 15 | 13 | 0 | 2  | 42 | 15 | 24 |
| KEELOR         | 15 | 10 | 3 | 2  | 35 | 20 | 20 |
| ALTONA GATE    | 15 | 10 | 3 | 2  | 40 | 27 | 18 |
| STALBAM        | 15 | 8  | 0 | 7  | 37 | 34 | 18 |
| SUNSH. HEIGHTS | 15 | 8  | 0 | 7  | 37 | 34 | 18 |
| YARRAVILLE     | 15 | 3  | 1 | 11 | 24 | 23 | 15 |
| GREEN GULLY    | 14 | 3  | 0 | 11 | 24 | 37 | 14 |
| MELTON         | 12 | 3  | 0 | 10 | 14 | 37 | 10 |
| SUNSH. UTD     | 15 | 0  | 2 | 13 | 4  | 50 | 2  |
| MELBOURNE CITY | 15 | 0  | 1 | 14 | 0  | 88 | 1  |

## UNDER 13

### EASTERN A

|                | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | PT |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| BULLER         | 15 | 11 | 3 | 1  | 64 | 15 | 23 |
| STH SPRINGVALE | 15 | 11 | 2 | 2  | 41 | 11 | 26 |
| POWELL         | 15 | 10 | 2 | 3  | 51 | 20 | 22 |
| CONLEY         | 15 | 7  | 4 | 4  | 34 | 35 | 18 |
| WOODROSE       | 15 | 7  | 2 | 6  | 34 | 21 | 15 |
| HAMPTON PARK   | 14 | 6  | 0 | 8  | 32 | 22 | 14 |
| ELTHAM UTD     | 14 | 5  | 0 | 9  | 11 | 48 | 7  |
| EAST RICHMOND  | 15 | 2  | 2 | 11 | 17 | 26 | 8  |
| DON ROVERS A   | 15 | 2  | 2 | 11 | 17 | 26 | 8  |
| RIVINGTON CITY | 15 | 0  | 2 | 13 | 6  | 90 | 2  |



### EASTERN B

|              | P  | W  | D | L | F  | A  | PT |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|
| ROSLAND      | 12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 7  | 24 |
| ALBERT PARK  | 12 | 8  | 3 | 1 | 25 | 19 | 18 |
| BENT GREENS  | 12 | 8  | 1 | 3 | 35 | 16 | 17 |
| WINDOORA     | 12 | 8  | 2 | 2 | 31 | 11 | 14 |
| LANDWARRIN   | 12 | 8  | 1 | 3 | 21 | 13 | 13 |
| CLAYTON      | 14 | 4  | 3 | 7 | 30 | 33 | 11 |
| MOOREBARK    | 12 | 4  | 3 | 5 | 17 | 25 | 11 |
| SHERBROOKE   | 12 | 8  | 0 | 4 | 13 | 28 | 4  |
| STH MARGARET | 12 | 0  | 3 | 9 | 8  | 40 | 2  |



## ST. ALBANS 1 FAWKNER 2

BY CON STAVROS

**EARLY** season pacesetters, middle-term flops, but ultimately final five participants. The Fawknor story for season 1992.

The Blues bounced back into the elite five, with just twenty minutes of the regular season outstanding, as Damir Gnjidic forced home the dramatic winner in Fawknor's 2-1 defeat of St. Albans.

The Saints, who had upset Fawknor three months ago, had nothing but pride on the line this time. Notwithstanding that, they proved to be admirable competitors all afternoon.

Guided by Andrew Marth, they had challenged, scrapped and pushed the Blues onto the ropes for much of the match and just when it seemed a knockout was imminent, the Blue-boys found some gas in the tank and snatched a goal that would prove invaluable.

Fawknor had scored the opener in the 34th minute after a goal-mouth scramble saw the ball fall to defender Manny Anezakis, who blasted home from close range.

St. Albans' equalizer, just two minutes later, was almost a carbon copy. On hand to fire home from close range in this case, was Marth.

With tension building in the second period, it appeared at one moment that Fawknor would steal fifth spot with just a draw.

Claude Lucchesi knew better than to settle for that nail-biting scenario, so with renewed vigor he cajoled his charges into a succession of forward flings that left the Blues short at the back.

With a goal at either end practically certain, given the commitment to attack, Blues fans rejoiced as another goalmouth scramble in the 70th minute allowed young Gnjidic to force home the goal they had prayed for.

Despite the loss for home coach Tony Vrzina, it was mission accomplished for the year. His objective - safety for the Saints - despite some patchy performances, was achieved.

Fawknor, final five members for 24 of the 26 rounds, had, courtesy of other results and their own display, made the five when it mattered most.

The good fortune continued for Fawknor post-match, with the news they would be hosting this weeks cut-throat elimination fixture against Green Gully. Kick-off will be 12.30, Sunday afternoon.

**ST. ALBANS:** Grdic, Coric, M Colina, Ketsakides, Kovacevic, Marth, Opasinis, Silic, I Colina (Luburic), Fitzpatrick, Milanovic.  
**F A W K N E R :** Anastasiadis, Anezakis, Tombolato, Vlatkovic, Schipano, Emmanuelle, Lucchesi, Gojevic, Gnjidic, Retre, Tortevski

(Sorrentino).  
**REFEREE:** Eugene Brazzale.  
**VOTES:** Marth (SA) 1, Emmanuelle (F) 2.

## CROYDON CITY 2 KNOX CITY 2

BY DWIGHT TUFFNELL

**CROYDON CITY** ensured that they will participate in the Premier League next season, by playing out a thrilling 2-2 draw with Eastern suburbs rivals Knox City.

Knox, needing a victory to survive, played wholeheartedly, but were sometimes unfortunate in a very physical match.

Half an hour into the first period saw a great chance for Knox to go ahead but skipper, Guy Bakker, could only put his shot wide of the post in a one-on-one situation with Darren McGrath.

Right on half-time Croydon took the lead after sweeper Jim McBride played a long, high ball forward to Justin Scrobogna, who headed the ball over Marty Posar into the empty net.

Nine minutes after the break Knox equalized. A Nick Van Egmond corner was headed powerfully towards goal by Simon Middleton and Greg House was there to help the ball on its way.

In the 62nd minute Croydon were back in front courtesy of some sloppy Knox defending, Scrobogna chased a backpass and forced it against Posar and Paul Kaukiainen was on hand to steer the ball home.

It only took Knox two minutes to be level again. The Don's defensive wall couldn't block Van Egmond's free-kick as it found its way through a gap and inside the far post.

The final twenty minutes was a dramatic struggle and both sides became more desperate. Raff Bakker was a little too desperate though, receiving a red card from referee Jim Hogg five minutes from full-time, for an over-enthusiastic challenge on Greg Brack.

Knox still have an opportunity to be playing in the top flight next season, when they apply for the third position left open in the league by Morwell's elevation into the National competition.

**CROYDON CITY:** McGrath, Spiteri (Heyhurst), Latinopoulos, McBride, Morgan, Kaukiainen, McGeachy, De La Plaza, Bogdevski (Brack), Klepac, Scrobogna.  
**KNOX CITY:** Posar, Bozic, Jamieson, Middleton, Chalmers, G. Bakker, Van Egmond, Hoodless, R. Bakker, Lutgens, House.  
**REFEREE:** Jim Hogg.  
**VOTES:** McBride (C) 2, Jamieson (K) 1.

## OAKLEIGH 1 ALTONA GATE 2

BY DAVID BEARD

**AN ambitious Altona Gate** defeated a hard working Oakleigh, 2-1 at Caloola Reserve, in a keenly fought last round encounter.

Three goals in twelve minutes decided the clash which at times saw players extremely desperate for the ball, which was surprising considering the game had no affect on the finals or relegation battles.

Nick Ousalkas gave Oakleigh the lead in the 37th minute when he tapped home the ball from a couple of yards, after a free-kick from Martin Woodall which swung into the box from the left-wing.

Radomir Talevski equalized for the visitors six minutes later when he headed home from close range after his initial shot had rebounded off the post.

Four minutes into the second half Henri Velkovski slotted the ball truly for Altona after a through-ball from Peter Nicoski.

The linesman kept his flag down, even though Velkovski and Robert Trajkovski appeared to be clearly offside, and this non-decision at the end of the day helped decide the game.

Oakleigh could have equalized; Nick Haidaris and Woodall both hit the post from the edge of the box, Klime Aslimovski cleared off the line and Zoran Janakievski made a brilliant one handed save to fend off a Joe O'Donnell goalbound shot.

Gator coach, Roy Maclaren is hoping to stay on next season and believes the team as it has a lot of potential, but could do with a couple of extra players.

Oak's coach Nico Nicoglou, has been offered the job for the relegated Oakleigh in Division One next year, but said "I will make up my mind during the off-season, but Oakleigh needs a striker who can finish."

**OAKLEIGH:** Makrigiannis, Vagias, Haidaris (Stamatis), Argyropoulos, Ousalkas, O'Donnell, Woodall, Andrew, Tsirakis, Tzamouranis, Babatsias.  
**ALTONA GATE:** Janakievski, Micevski, Talevski (Lingurovski), Ferrante, McMillan, Aslimovski, Velkovski, Davis, Markovski, Nicoski, Trajkovski.  
**REFEREE:** Jim Taneski.  
**VOTES:** O'Donnell (O) 1, Aslimovski (AG) 1.

## MORWELL FAL 1 B. JUVENTUS 1

BY GREG BLAKE

IT was always going to take a defensive blunder to let weakened Morwell back into what proved a lacklustre final round Premier League match

against Brunswick Juventus in the Latrobe Valley on Sunday.

Juve's John Corvan inspired defence held all the aces against the courageous Falcons for all but a split second, but that was enough to throw Morwell the lifeline for a 1-1 draw.

Steve Smith had blasted the defending champion to a 19th minute lead, scrambling home a left-footer after Michael Mazzini's initial effort was only half cleared to safety.

But the home side refused to buckle even long after it was clear that Marley, Tom Sonsini, Paul Della Rocca and John Corvan weren't about to give Morwell's front line - minus top gun Kevin Harrison - a sniff of the action.

George Nilo, Anthony Cassar and Co. continued to ferret away in impressive style and the Falcons' endeavour was rewarded when Cassar found himself running on to an errant back pass inside the Juve half with four minutes left on the clock.

Showing a touch of class, Cassar ran the ball ten metres into the box, skipped the lung of Juve keeper Peter Laumets, and stuffed his shot into the roof of the net to tie it up as the Falcons bade to the Premier League.

Juventus could afford to coast through with a point enough for the finals double chance, but coach Billy Rogers must surely have been frustrated at his team's inability to put away an inferior opponent.

Juve carved out a number of chances but went closest to locking up the two points when John Corvan cracked a free kick against the woodwork from 30 metres out in the second half.

**MORWELL:** Mautone, Harris, Baldacchino, G.Nilo, Bruns, Pender, A.Cassar, E.Cassar, Nield, Upton (J.Nilo), Wright.

**JUVENTUS:** Laumets, Marley, Ferla, Corvan, Della Rocca, Lane, White, Smith, Minichiello, Mazzini (Asimacopoulos), Sonsini.

**REFEREE:** John Fraser  
**VOTES:** A.Cassar (MF) 1; Corvan (Juve) 2.

## GREEN GULLY 4 ALBION 1

BY PETER KOTSIRIS

**ALBION'S fairytale** run to the inaugural VSF Premier League finals came to an abrupt halt as Green Gully, the team tipped by many to struggle this season, won by the convincing scoreline of 4-1.

The final margin is not a true reflection of the game as Albion had a lot of possession and chances in the first half. But as is so often the case in these games, the team that scores first inevitably hangs on to win the game.

The first big chance of the match fell in the 13th minute

as Joe Spiteri dispossessed Gully defender Rodovan Barjaktarevic. Barjaktarevic pushed Spiteri as he was about to shoot, but to the disbelief of the Albion fans, referee John Rutter waved play on.

As fate would decree, Gully scored with their very next attack as Sash Becvinovski collected a long clearance from Eric Janssen to thread a lovely through ball to Derek Hunter, who had no trouble opening the score.

The remainder of the half saw Albion have some good chances to equalize, none better than a 31st minute effort where Ayhan Patsaman swung in a cross aimed at Enever Osman who missed with the header. The ball then fell for Joe Spiteri, whose lob was cleared off the line by Gully's Peter Spiteri to deny Albion a certain goal.

The first nail into the Albion coffin was secured right on half-time as big Steve Chetcuti flicked on a free-kick to Becvinovski, who had no trouble making it goal number two for the hosts.

The opening 20 minutes of the second half saw the Reds desperately trying to get a goal to put themselves back in the game. Chances went begging twice through Trani and once through Patsaman who hit the upright.

Albion's lifeline came in the 76th minute via Spiteri who managed to put away a shot after an almighty goalmouth scramble.

Strangely enough the Albion goal seemed to inspire Green Gully, who went further ahead after some great lead up work by midfielder wizard Alex Gymnopoulos allowed Becvinovski to release veteran Vlatko Belic, who headed home from eight yards out.

The killer goal came two minutes from time as man-of-the-match and surely CCSL bound, Sash Becvinovski, found Gymnopoulos who curled his shot delightfully into the net giving Albion's Toth no chance.

**GREEN GULLY:** Janssen, Ciantar (Latomanski), Spiteri, Santalucia, Barjaktarevic, Chetcuti, Gymnopoulos, Becvinovski, Hunter, Belic, Campelj (Burlak).  
**ALBION:** Toth, Binyazar, Grimaud, Hogben, Markovski, Stefanac, Kebakovski, Trani, Spiteri, Osman (Kadiccek), Patsaman.  
**REFEREE:** John Rutter.  
**VOTES:** Becvinovski (GG) 3, Patsaman (A) 1.

## THOMASTOWN 1 NORTH GEELONG 1

BY ROY HAY

**NORTH GEELONG** confirmed its Minor Premiership in the Premier League with a gutsy one-all draw in atrocious conditions at Partridge Reserve on Sunday.

North almost took the lead after only two minutes when

Bogdan Bonk's free-kick was gathered by Thomastown keeper Robert Brian as Rob Markovac rushed in.

This was the first of a series of brilliant saves by Brian, who denied the Polish Rifle on several occasions, plus each of the North forwards in turn.

Thomastown came back after that initial flurry to open the scoring for the game. Klaus Bichler put a high ball into the area, which Pino Corallo challenged for, the ball rebounded off the head of young North player Vinko Saric and past his own keeper for a goal.

North needed no encouragement to go forward at this stage and Thomastown conceded a series of free-kicks as it tried to deny Adrian Cervinski and Robert Markovac as they powered into attack.

Goran Georgievski was also proving a handful for Tom Karic, John Michailidis and Nino Di Martino in the Thomastown backline.

In Thomastown counters, Giaccherini was stretching the visitors down the left and Bichler belied his years with a skilful and determined first half.

Bichler seemed to have put his team further ahead when his inswinging corner went directly into the North goal after 36 minutes, but referee John Santa-Isabel ruled it out because of a foul on the keeper.

Instantly North came back and Brian made two incredible saves to deny Georgievski and Cervinski, diving backwards towards his own goal to clutch the second effort.

After the interval, North with the wind at their back gradually turned the screws on Thomastown and forced two corners in succession in the 63rd minute.

The second was never properly cleared and Goran Georgievski poked it over the line from a metre or so from goal for the equalizer.

Interested spectators at the encounter included Melbourne coach Ken Murphy, who was on hand to appraise the talents of Steve Horvat and Adrian Cervinski.  
**THOMASTOWN:** Brian, De Propertis, Constantinou, Mihailidis, Karic, Di Martino, Bichler, Tsangas (Raguso), Farquharson (Luna), Giaccherini, Corallo.  
**NORTH GEELONG:** Vunderl, Karkaletsis, Cosic, Saric (Palmaricciotti), Horvat, D. Cervinski, Bonk, Markovac, A Cervinski, Georgievski, Wilson.  
**REFEREE:** John Santa-Isabel.  
**VOTES:** Bichler (T) 1, Bonk (NG) 1.

•••••

## BULLEEN 3 SUNSHINE G.C. 3

BY PETER DESIRA

**SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS** failed in its last ditch attempt at earning a spot in the top five,

after recording a thrilling 3-3 draw with Bulleen at the Veneto complex on Sunday.

At half-time, it appeared as if fortune was going to favour Ken Wagstaff's combination.

Dominating proceedings early on, particularly through the midfield trio of Kevin Muscat, John Waddell and Norm Dougherty, Sunshine had taken the lead in the 24th minute after Carl Gilder had steered home a Waddell

•••••  
A second half stanza of six whirlwind minutes shattered the visitors dream however as the Lions notched three goal.

Darren Tuck began the goal-rush with the match equalizer in the 55th minute as he toe poked the ball past Sean Keogh to finish off the fine lead up work of Frank Valentic and Stan Thodis.

The diminutive dynamo, Thodis, had a hand in Bulleen's second as well just three minutes later, spreading the ball wide to Scott Patterson who traversed inboard to shoot past Keogh from inside the box.

Number three in the avalanche came within another three minutes as this time Frank Valentic rose at the far post to head home a corner.

Sunshine seemingly destroyed by the flurry, regained some hope in the 77th minute when referee Dennis Voutsinas awarded them a penalty for a foul committed on Vasco Trpceviski.

South Melbourne bound Kevin Muscat took the spot-kick and watched in anguish as his strike collected the crossbar.

Unfazed by the misfortune, Sunshine was thrown a lifeline when substitute Agim Sherifovski's right-side run and shot beat Raponi to bridge the deficit to one goal.

That was narrowed to parity in the 88th minute when Muscat's lay-off to Waddell allowed the playmaker to curl a shot into the top right hand corner for what was the game's best scoring move.

That dramatic charge was not enough for Sunshine however as the referee's whistle combined with the Fawknor result to put paid to another season.

Bulleen's goal haul enabled them to secure the double chance for the finals but didn't save the side from getting a lashing from coach Andy Bozikas who clearly is ill at ease with his charges inexperience and tendency to lose concentration during a match.

**SUNSHINE:** Keogh, Fabrizio, Koliba (Sherifovski), Hodgson (Markovski), Melrose, Waddell, Dougherty, Cocker, Muscat, Gilder, Trpceviski.

**BULLEEN:** Raponi, Valentic, Krajacic, Marsan, Ruccia, Thodis, Vesnaver, Grbac, Tiatto, Patterson, Tuck.  
**REFEREE:** Dennis Voutsinas.  
**VOTES:** Waddell (SGC) 1, Thodis (B) 2.



# AROUND THE NATION

## Our man in Canberra GRAHAM COOKE

**THERE** will be no "rebel leagues" splitting ACT Futsal during the coming summer season, acting president Jim Gordon says.

A proposal by two of the area's leading players, Tony Musumeci and Billy Stewart, to establish a competition separate from Futsal would not go ahead. "We have come to an agreement with them and a new Futsal State League will incorporate many of their ideas," Gordon said.

The prospect of rival competitions, with players in the unofficial league threatened by suspension from Futsal-sponsored representative teams, was sickeningly familiar to the sport's veterans who went through the ACT's two-year expulsion from the national body in the 1980s.

"We are now in a situation where indoor soccer can really take off," Gordon said. "The new competition will begin on September 27 and will consist of 25-metre halves, with a further 10 minutes for warm-ups and half time."

"It will be played at Daramalan College under the new FIFA rules - the one problem is balls. I am not yet sure whether we will have enough of the new variety in time."

He said that while Futsal is inviting applications for the league, the aim is to have the best eight teams from Canberra. "It will not be a closed shop. There will be promotion and relegation from the Northside and Southside competitions at the end of each season, probably through a play-off system."

In further developments, ACT Futsal is to establish an office at Sports House in the wing of the old Hackett Primary School opposite the main complex; and will appoint a part-time executive officer.

**THE NAME** of Gagetti made a re-appearance in the Canberra Metro line-up against St George recently - not Joe, but younger brother Paul who came off the substitutes' bench for his first-team debut in the second half.

The youngster, one of the mainstays of the Metro youth team over the last couple of seasons, made an impression with his first touch - a defensive tackle to deny Saints' captain Blago Mincevic a shot on goal.



VICTOR FERNANDEZ

**PERHAPS** the most important statistic to come out of the St George game was "Lemezina, 2" on the scoring list.

With Marko Perinovic back in Hong Kong and Michael Musitano likely to miss the rest of the season with a dislocated shoulder, there is no other specialist scorer to carry the club through the crucial last stages of the season.

On Sunday, Lemezina netted with an excellent angled shot then followed that up with a "gift" presented to him from a misjudged back-pass.

"They all count," he said afterwards. "And it's great to come in from a game having scored a couple."

"I know I haven't been finding the net as often as I should, and with the pressure back on, everyone's going to be expecting a few from me between now and the end of the season."

## ACT BRIEFS

**THE ACT** schoolboys' squad needs one more piece to the jigsaw in its preparations for the national championship in Canberra next month - a sponsor.

Coach Paul Beltrame says there is an assumption that because the ACT is the home state there is no need to back the squad. "That could not be further from the truth. There are plenty of expenses the players incur which have to be born either by themselves or their parents," he said.

"I believe this squad has the potential to win this important title - and to do so in front of our own supporters."

The team gained a moral-boosting 2-1 win over NSW in a warm-up game and continues its preparations with a match against an Associated Southern Colleges XI on Thursday, August 27.

The final squad is: Troy Bellamy, Craig Moore, Jason Cheesman, Richard Plesa, Fabio Macolino, Vasco Trpceviski (Lake Ginninderra), John Sipinkas, Zvonimir Rakic, Tony Pangallo (St Edmunds), Ryan Turner (Copland), Iain Behr, Daniel Jukic, Mark Pietrukowski, Sean Toohey (Hawker), Josip Skrtic, Neil Russell (Lake Tuggeranong).

Coach, Paul Beltrame (St Edmund's). Manager, Chris Conti (Kambah High). Assistant manager, Richard Beazley (Canberra Metros). Trainer, Jamie Crocker (AIS).

**SWEeper** CHANTELE Peterson will become the second Stormbirds player to head for the US when she takes up an exchange program to study in Boston.

Peterson, 15, who has been playing for four years, is a regular in the Stormbirds' first team currently in the ACTWSA's Reserve Division. She does not know whether her new school, Randolph High, has a girls' soccer program "If it doesn't, I'll start one," she said.

While the main purpose of the 12-month exchange is study and experience of another country, Peterson is sure her game will benefit from the US environment where women's soccer enjoys equal status with the men.

In Boston she will not be far from her former teammate, goalkeeper Sara King, who has been

on scholarship at Mt Ida College since mid-1991.

**NOMINATIONS** have been called for the ACT Veterans' Shield which will be run at Kambah No.2 Oval on October 3.

Players over the age of 35 are eligible to compete and existing entries in the State league's Masters' Division, or new teams are welcome. The current holder of the shield is the Italo-Australian Club. Further information can be obtained from Jock Coulter on 275 2580 (bh) or 231 18107 (ah).

**THE ACT** Soccer Federation's decision to run its season into October this year has caught it offside with the Government's Parks and Gardens Department.

Representative commitments and the decision to run Federation Cup ties at weekends has meant the 21-round ACT Premier League will not play its final regular-season games until October 4. There is then a three-round Ampol Cup finals series, which will run to October 18.

A spokesman for the Department, Rick Rand, said every effort had been made to accommodate the federation this season.

"But if they want to run into October in future they will have to look elsewhere for their pitches," he said.

"There is a need to renovate pitches, while others are required for summer sports which begin in October."

Rand also commented on complaints at the state of Hawker Oval, one of the ACTSF's principle grounds on the Northside. The federation has made representations to the department on the matter.

"The problem is drainage, and we have a plan for dealing with it which will not involve the surface being completely removed," he said.

Even so the plan would cost \$100,000 and it was a question of when the money would be available.

"Once the financial situation is sorted out the work can easily be completed in an off-season - there is little use for Hawker outside the winter," he said.

# The news from Queensland

By  
**GUY HAND**

**FOUR** St Helens defensive errors left Acacia Ridge in the box seat for XXXX Soccer League promotion after their 4-1 trouncing of the Ipswich side in their Second Division clash at Ebbw Vale.

Ridge striker Jason Eacott helped himself to a hat-trick and Brett Hamblett added the other to put their side three points clear at the top of the closely contested division and near-certainties for promotion.

St Helens slipped to fifth with the loss, with Inala City giving them a slim chance for promotion after a surprise 2-1 loss to 10th placed St Albans.

But St Helens coach Russell Turner admitted his side would "do it tough" after their below-par performance on Sunday, even though they are only a point behind second-placed Inala and Wynnum.

In other Second Division matches, Willowburn handed out a 7-1 thrashing to struggling Newmarket, Wynnum notched up a 4-1 victory over The Gap, Nerang beat Slacks Creek 3-1 and Mitchelton drew 1-1 with Olympic.

The points table is: Acacia Ridge 41; Wynnum, Inala 38;

Willowburn, St Helens 37; Nerang 35; Slacks Creek, St Albans 23; Olympic 22; The Gap 20; Newmarket 13; Mitchelton 12.

**BRISBANE** United's National Soccer League striking force has received a double boost with the re-signing of ace forwards John Brown and Rob Markovac.

Brown has agreed to terms with United, while Markovac, a free agent, will rejoin United once he finishes his Victorian State League commitments with the high-flying North Geelong side.

Although Markovac is likely to be needed for North Geelong's finals campaign, he has told coach Miron Bleiberg he will link up with United as soon as possible.

Brown's signing ends weeks of speculation about his future - most of which the speedy striker said was "unbelievable".

"All I want to do now is concentrate on my game," Brown said.

"There have been so many stories flying around it's unreal. I'm happy to get it all over and done with and now I just want to get on with playing."

**COALSTARS** and Easts are likely to replay the XXXX Soccer League fixture abandoned last Saturday night because of floodlight failure at Heath Park on August 26.

Queensland Soccer Federation secretary Jim Gilbert said Saturday's match, called off because the floodlights at Easts failed completely two minutes into the second half, was likely to remain at Heath Park once repair work was carried out to the lighting.

Easts' floodlights failed three times on Saturday night - once during the reserve grade match, once after the reserve grade match and during the XXXX League match.

A SEQEB team repaired the lights for the reserve grade match to continue, but the lighting failed again afterwards despite work to get them operational.

Gilbert said the match would definitely be played, although if the lights were not repaired properly the game could be moved from Heath Park.

"It has to be played because of the bearing it has on both the teams and the whole league,"

Gilbert said.

"This week is probably too soon because Easts are doing work on the power, cables and fuses, so it's probably unlikely to be played this week because of shortage of notice and the fact the lights won't be 100% right."

"It'll be most likely at Heath Park on Wednesday week, but if they still have problems with the lighting it (the match) may be taken off them and moved to another ground."

The match was evenly poised at 1-1 when it was abandoned, with Coalstars coach John Ogden feeling his side was in a position to win the game and claim three valuable XXXX League points.

"Why can't we have that sort of luck when we're losing?" Ogden said.

"I thought we were well on top at that stage and I really fancied our chances of going on and doing them."

Mark Brusasco scored Stars' goal but had one disallowed earlier for an infringement on the keeper.

Easts are two points ahead of Coalstars and are also slim chances to make the final five.

Ogden admitted his side, now six points behind fifth-placed Pine Rivers, had a hard slog to make the play-offs and had only themselves

to blame if they did miss out.

"We'll have a hard job but we can look back on four of the games where an own goal has decided the match," Ogden said.

"Those games are going to be vital in the wash-up."

**ROCHEDALE** Rovers tumbled off the top of the XXXX Soccer League ladder with a shock 2-1 loss to Mt Gravatt.

Jarrod Austin and David Munn netted for Mt Gravatt after Marc Lederhose had earlier missed a penalty for the Hawks.

The loss was costly for Rochedale, with arch-rivals North Star leapfrogging them to take the league lead with a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Lutwyche United.

Brisbane Croatia, the surprise packets of the league this season, joined Rochedale on 34 points with a classy 3-1 victory over Taringa Rovers thanks to goals from Rado Vidacic, Marty Fehiberg and a Cameron Pearce own goal.

Lions kept themselves in line for a finals berth with a 2-0 victory over struggling Grange Thistle, while Pine Rivers dished out a 4-0 hiding to Brisbane City.

Last year's Brisbane United NSL striker Clayton Koch,

currently out of favour with United selectors, showed his undoubted class with a hat-trick.

**OFFERS** from Brisbane and southern clubs are sure to be forthcoming for teenage Papua New Guinean goalkeeper Nara Kakat after his brilliant performance for PNG against Brisbane United last Monday night at Perry Park.

The 17-year-old keeper conceded six goals as United romped to a 6-0 victory, but he saved his side from a double figure defeat with some great work between the sticks, especially in the second half.

Queensland coach Juan Cutillas was one interested party at the match on Monday, while southern buyers are also reported to be keen to attract the youngster to Aussie shores.

PNG coach Joseph Turia discovered Kakat a year ago and said he knew then he had found a potential national keeper. Despite the 6-0 loss, Turia was pleased with his side's performance, considering the team had never played under lights before.





## 1993 FIFA/ Coca-Cola Cup preparations underway

Preparations are well underway for the 7th World Youth Championship for the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup - the most prestigious youth soccer competition in the world - to be hosted by Australia in 1993.

Early this year, the Australian Soccer Federation (ASF) announced that former New South Wales Premier, the Honourable Neville Wran AC QC, would head up the 12 member National Organising Committee which is responsible for co-ordinating the event.

In a media briefing in Sydney to announce the appointment, ASF Chairman, John Constantine, described the World Youth Championship as second only to the World Cup for excitement and prestige.

"The FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup is a massive undertaking

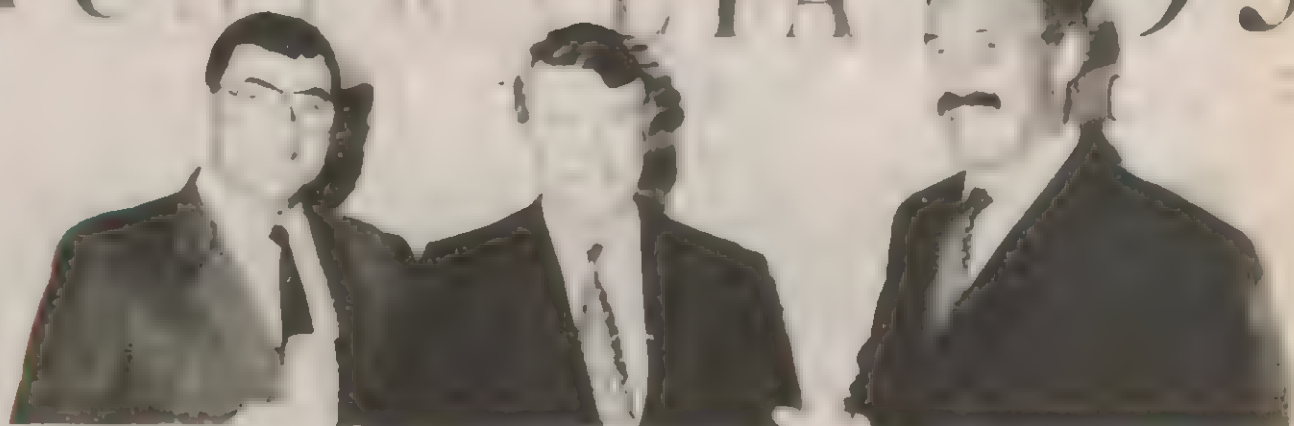
involving 400 players and team officials, a media contingent of up to 500, 70 FIFA delegates and 30 referees.

"Soccer followers are already aware of the importance of the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup in the world soccer calendar, and as we gear up for 1993, we hope the whole country will get behind the Championships to help us prove to the world our ability to stage an event of this magnitude.

"Staging a successful Championship will not only boost the sport of Soccer in Australia, it will also boost Sydney's chance of hosting the 2000 Summer Olympics. The World Youth Championship will be the largest international sporting event to be held in Australia in 1993 - the year the International Olympic Committee makes a decision on the 2000 host cities.

ASF Chairman John Constantine (L) and Coca-Cola South Pacific Vice-President Peter Trives (R) congratulate Neville Wran on his appointment as Chairman of the National Organising Committee.

# AUSTRALIA 1993



"As well as attracting sponsorship from the worldwide Coca-Cola System, the event will attract Government support with funding from the Australian Sports Commission."

"Speaking of his new position as Chairman of the NOC, Mr Wran said he was delighted to accept the opportunity to play a role in such an exciting event, particularly in the light of Australia's success in 1991 in Portugal.

"It is up to our committee to ensure the 1993 FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup will long be remembered as a happy and successful Championship. We relish that challenge," Mr Wran said.

The 1993 Championships are the seventh to be sponsored globally by Coca-Cola.

Coca-Cola South Pacific Vice-President Sports Marketing, Peter Trives, said that while the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup had been staged before in Australia - in 1981 - the 1993 event held greater significance.

"Soccer in Australia has in the past been seen as a minority code. Today, it has overcome that tag, acquiring a huge grass roots following. We have shown our belief in the sport's future by complementing our international Coca-Cola sponsorship of soccer with a major sponsorship of the national Coca-Cola Soccer League.

"With the 1993 World Youth Championship now almost upon us, we look forward to showcasing the best international soccer alongside the thrills and spills of national competition," Mr Trives said.

### NATIONAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

|                  |                   |                                                          |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CHAIRMAN:</b> | NEVILLE WRAN      | AC QC                                                    |
| <b>MEMBERS:</b>  | RODNEY ADLER      | CHIEF EXECUTIVE FAI INSURANCES LTD                       |
|                  | DAVID DENTON      | NATIONAL DIRECTOR, SPECIAL EVENTS<br>TELECOM AUSTRALIA   |
|                  | DERRICK DOCHERTY  | FORMER DIRECTOR<br>FINANCE & PLANNING IBM AUSTRALIA      |
|                  | ROBERT ELPHINSTON | GENERAL MANAGER<br>SYDNEY OLYMPIC BID 2000               |
|                  | JOHN KONRADS      | CHIEF EXECUTIVE<br>MELBOURNE MAJOR EVENTS<br>COMPANY LTD |
|                  | REMO NOGAROTTO    | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,<br>HOUSING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION |

|                                   |                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| JIM FERGUSON                      | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR<br>AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION                                          |
| ALAN RYDGE                        | CHAIRMAN,<br>AMALGAMATED HOLDINGS LTD                                                       |
| PETER TRIVES                      | VICE-PRESIDENT SPORTS MARKETING,<br>COCA-COLA SOUTH PACIFIC                                 |
| MICK YOUNG                        | PRESIDENT<br>SOUTH AUSTRALIAN<br>SOCCER FEDERATION                                          |
| MONTY PORTER                      | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,<br>SPORT NEW SOUTH WALES<br>DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, RECREATION<br>& RACING |
| <b>EXEC. OFFICER:</b> GEORGE DICK | PROJECT MANAGER -<br>AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION                                           |



## Qualifying Tournament dates and locations

The full list of tournaments are in date order.

### UEFA (Europe) SIX COUNTRIES TO QUALIFY

Earlier qualifying tournaments have resulted in the final eight countries being:

**C.I.S. (USSR) ENGLAND GERMANY HUNGARY**  
**NORWAY POLAND PORTUGAL TURKEY**

The final playoff to determine the six qualifiers and the UEFA Championship will be held in Nuremberg (Germany) between July 22 - 27

### CONMEBOL (South America) THREE COUNTRIES TO QUALIFY

Participants in the CONMEBOL Championship and Qualifying Tournament are:

**ARGENTINA BOLIVIA BRAZIL CHILE**  
**COLOMBIA ECUADOR PARAGUAY PERU**  
**URUGUAY VENEZUELA**

Argentina is currently under suspension from the 1993 World Youth Championship, but has an appeal lodged against the suspension.

The tournament is to be held in Medellin (Colombia) from August 14 - 30.

### AFC (Asia) and OFC (Oceania) TWO COUNTRIES TO QUALIFY

Asia will hold a series of qualifying tournaments with the winner of OCEANIA joining in the final tournament to be held in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) from October 3 - 10.

### CAF (Africa) TWO COUNTRIES TO QUALIFY

The CAF will hold two preliminary tournaments between June and August then a final Tournament in the Island of Mauritius between January 30 to February 14, 1993. (FIFA has approved the delayed tournament, which will see the African qualifiers for the WYC drawn as AFRICA 1 and AFRICA 2 when the draw takes place in Sydney in November.)

## New Project Management Team

Mr George Dick has assumed the role of Project Manager for the World Youth Championship following the departure from the position of Mr Ian Holmes, who has become the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Soccer Federation (ASF).

As Head of Delegation with the Young Socceroos in the last World Youth Championship in Portugal in 1991, Mr Dick has gained first hand experience of the organisation and administration of a FIFA Championship. A former ASF Executive Committee member and Vice President of New South Wales Soccer Federation, Mr Dick is currently Vice President of the OCEANIA Confederation.



Assisting with the management of the Championship is Ms Corinne Blatter from Switzerland. Ms Blatter has had considerable experience with FIFA World Cups and Youth Championships, commencing with the 1981 Championship in Australia. She is also a skilled linguist, being fluent in German, French, Spanish and English.

## CONCACAF

### FIRST WYC QUALIFIERS DECIDED Under-20 CHAMPIONSHIP, CANADA MAY 3-14, 1992.

MEXICO and the USA have become the first qualifiers for the final 16 for Australia '93 after finishing first and second in the CONCACAF qualifying tournament held in Vancouver from May 3 - 14. Results of all matches and final placing are as follows:

10.05.92 Canada v Honduras 1:0 Mexico v United States 3:0  
12.05.92 Honduras v United States 0:4 Canada v Mexico 1:1  
14.05.92 Mexico v Honduras 0:0 Canada v United States 1:2

|               | GP | W | D | L | GF | GA | Pts |
|---------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Mexico        | 3  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 4  | 1  | 4   |
| United States | 3  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6  | 4  | 4   |
| Canada        | 3  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3  | 3  | 3   |
| Honduras      | 3  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 5  | 1   |

### Goalscorers

J. Sanchez (Mexico) 3 N. Thompson (Canada) 2  
I. Babin (United States) 1 C. Fariello (United States) 1  
M. Moore (United States) 1 C. Peay (United States) 1  
R. Smith (United States) 1 N. Vargas (United States) 1  
own goal in favour of Mexico

**Awards Player of the Tournament:** Manuel Sol - Mexico

**Top Goalscorer:** Niall Thompson - Canada (5 goals)

## Match schedule:

### The 1993 FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup

|     |          |          |    |           |   |              |
|-----|----------|----------|----|-----------|---|--------------|
| FRI | 05.03.93 | 20.00    | 1  | SYDNEY    | } | RD 1         |
| SAT | 06.03.93 | 18.00    | 3  | BRISBANE  |   |              |
|     |          | 20.00    | 2  | CANBERRA  |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 4  | BRISBANE  |   |              |
| SUN | 07.03.93 | 18.00    | 5  | MELBOURNE | } | RD 1         |
|     |          | 18.00    | 7  | ADELAIDE  |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 6  | MELBOURNE |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 8  | ADELAIDE  |   |              |
| MON | 08.03.93 | 18.00    | 10 | CANBERRA  | } | RD 2         |
|     |          | 20.15    | 9  | SYDNEY    |   |              |
| TUE | 09.03.93 | 18.00    | 12 | BRISBANE  |   |              |
|     |          | 18.00    | 14 | MELBOURNE |   |              |
|     |          | 18.00    | 16 | ADELAIDE  | } | RD 2         |
|     |          | 20.15    | 11 | BRISBANE  |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 13 | MELBOURNE |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 15 | ADELAIDE  |   |              |
| WED | 10.03.93 | REST DAY |    |           | } | RD 3         |
| THU | 11.03.93 | 18.00    | 18 | SYDNEY    |   |              |
|     |          | 18.00    | 20 | BRISBANE  |   |              |
|     |          | 18.00    | 22 | MELBOURNE |   |              |
|     |          | 18.00    | 24 | ADELAIDE  | } | RD 3         |
|     |          | 20.15    | 17 | SYDNEY    |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 19 | BRISBANE  |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 21 | MELBOURNE |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 23 | ADELAIDE  | } | RD 3         |
| FRI | 12.03.93 | REST DAY |    |           |   |              |
| SAT | 13.03.93 | 18.00    | 26 | BRISBANE  |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 25 | SYDNEY    |   |              |
| SUN | 14.03.93 | 18.30    | 27 | MELBOURNE | } | QF           |
|     |          | 20.15    | 28 | ADELAIDE  |   |              |
| MON | 15.03.93 | REST DAY |    |           | } | SF           |
| TUE | 16.03.93 | REST DAY |    |           |   |              |
| WED | 17.03.93 | 18.30    | 30 | MELBOURNE |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 29 | SYDNEY    |   |              |
| THU | 18.03.93 | REST DAY |    |           |   | 3/4<br>FINAL |
| FRI | 19.03.93 | REST DAY |    |           |   |              |
| SAT | 20.03.93 | 18.00    | 31 | SYDNEY    |   |              |
|     |          | 20.15    | 32 | SYDNEY    |   |              |

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Telephone: (02) 597 6611 International: +61 2 597 6611  
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Tele: 170512



# WARATAH STATE CUP

## SERIES A WINNER



CYPRUS UNITED COACH JOE WATSON (FRONT) DURING HIS SOCCEROO DAYS

BY PAUL GOODWIN

**THE First Division Premiership title has been won and lost and now clubs which qualified for the top five series can look forward to the possibility of getting their hands on some of the big prizemoney available to the winners and runners-up.**

Some of the top sides have been struggling with injuries and will welcome any break they can take between games afforded by the arrangements in place for the Finals series.

Cyprus United will be without two stalwarts of defence in Nick Plataniotis and Peter Papoythis, both suspended for the first match, but hope to have George Foundas, George Hatjitolis and Jason Bennett fit again in time to rejoin the side.

Joe Watson originally felt that the top five series might prove an anti-climax for his boys after the jubilation of winning the premiership.

Certainly the coach and his players celebrated last Sunday week long and hard: after seeing Auburn beaten by Dulwich Hill to ensure Cyprus would wind up as winners.

There were scenes of joy at the Cyprus community

club in Stanmore that night when the news came through.

### PRIZEMONEY

The lure of more prizemoney should be enough to urge the team on to a likely double and who can deny them their chance?

Watch out for star fullback Paul Panson, shining like a beacon with his runs down the flank and reliable service.

Clubs which have played second fiddle all year, such as Central Coast, want something out of this season to show for their hard work and the substantial first prize would be most welcome to pay some of the routine bills.

Bruce James has been battling to get players like Andrew Ollier, Rod Brown and Dale Eggleton fit in recent weeks, but the Coasties must rate a strong show, given their tight defence and overall application.

Coasties have a top goalkeeper in the making in Jason Holmes and he will be a big asset during the finals.

Another side which aims to improve on its past performances in the finals is Petersham, renowned for their sudden death successes already in the Waratah State Cup competition.

Their experience should help them, but the continuing

commitments could find them hard pressed to respond equally well in both spheres of competition.

There are probably a few scores to settle with opponents in the five, though, so the fur should fly when Petersham takes the field in the next week or so.

### OLD HANDS

Petersham will lean heavily on old hands Glenn Jeffery and Dave Kevern, but the man with most responsibility and sure to show it, is David Bennett, the team's on-the-go sweeper.

At the time of writing Dulwich Hill were still pushing Petersham for the other spot in the five and if they sneaked in they would be a big threat as their recent performances have been in the top order.

Norman Tome and Alberto Arbelo are doing the job Madeira right now and goals are beginning to flow.

Auburn United will view the series more seriously than anyone as they have reached peak form now and feel that this particular trophy is definitely within their reach.

Tom Mihajlovic expects to have his best side available and this is the team which we feel can win the big prize.

They will have the best vocal crowd support during the finals, of that we can be

assured and the Federation coffers should be healthy as long as they stay in contention.

Auburn speed merchant Darren Read has been carving up rival defences in recent weeks and his form will be a big factor.

Mount Druitt have twin ambitions too and their coach Wayne Farnsworth is a great believer in treating each game as it comes and in not setting specific priorities.

He expects nothing but the best from his players in every match they contest and feels that the lads can finish the season with honours in the Waratah State Cup as well as the Championship.

If Craig Smith can regain fitness and form the boys from the west of Sydney could figure prominently in the coming weeks.

### UNDER 19S NOT FORGOTTEN

The Under-19 teams have their moment in the spotlight at this time of the year and who can begrudge them after playing to unfilled houses for long periods during the weekly rounds.

There is a lot of good football being played by these teams, with competition for the fifth spot still going on in the last round, when either Gladesville or Campbelltown

must drop out.

Gladesville have given coach Mick James many highlights this year after a very slow start. It has been heartening to see the younger Bears come on so well, considering the calls on their services by the senior side as well.

Campbelltown have been similarly affected and the breeding ground for players like Conroy Filies, Vernon Porter, Vaughan Reynolds and Paul Maher has done its job well.

They will be fighting for the remaining place with all their customary tenacity.

The big guns of this section undoubtedly have been Dulwich Hill, West Wanderers and Mount Pritchard who have had a great tussle all season for top honours.

Dulwich Hill are being coached by Zaya Jabrael who is now playing with the team after mid-season injuries laid him low.

The influence of Nelio Borges has been apparent, but he will miss the series, though the young brigade like Ivo de Jesus and Nick Lupo are sure to shine brightly.

### ON TRACK

West Wanderers are now back on track after a brief lull when top scorer Danny Coccozza was overseas and they are running hot again.

The depth at Wests is clearly shown by the fact that no fewer than twelve of the seventeen players listed for finals action have played first grade at one stage or another.

Prominent among these is jack-in-the-box schools representative Danny Hinton, cool sweeper Lawrence Hall and dynamic emerging striker Brad Gambrell.

Mount Pritchard are going along very nicely, thank you, under the watchful eye of their enthusiastic young coach Dave Kenny, formerly with the Campbelltown senior side.

Mounties can claim to have a home grown side and will give a great sight in the series, with no fears of coming forward.

Auburn United must not

be forgotten. They are the only club, with the possible exception of Dulwich Hill if they qualify at the last, to have both teams in the finals.

Auburn are not playing with quite the authority they showed earlier on, but can still be a pretty effective unit.

The Finals kick off this Sunday at Arlington Oval, Dulwich Hill and Ernie Smith Reserve Moorebank and continue there the following Sunday.

A week later the preliminary final will be staged at Arlington and the Federation has booked The Gabbie for the Grand Final on Saturday evening, 19th September, with 5pm and 7.30 starts for the two grades.

(Further details in the Premier section of First Division coverage).

## WARATAH CUP UPDATE

Dates and venues for the remaining Semi-Final and Final matches in the Waratah State Cup have been announced and tracks should be made to the Gabbie for all three matches.

The semis will be a double header on Wednesday 2nd September, with Petersham playing Canberra Metro in the early game at 6.30 and Mount Druitt tackling Avala at 8.15.

The winners will meet in the Final at the same Blacktown City headquarters on Saturday night, 26th September, one week after the Grand Final in both divisions.

With \$7000 available for the winning club, it is certainly going to be a hard fought contest again this year.





## NEW SOUTH WALES

## SUPER LEAGUE

|                                        |     |     |
|----------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| St George BSC vs Adamstown R'bud       | 1-1 | 1-1 |
| Canberra Metro vs Avala                | 1-1 | 2-0 |
| Warringah Dolphin vs Blacktown City    | 1-0 | 0-0 |
| Sydney Mac vs Eastern Sub              | 3-2 | 1-0 |
| Sutherland Shire vs Canterbury M'ville | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| Wollongong Mac vs Rockdale Ilinden     | 1-0 | 1-1 |

## STATE LEAGUE: FIRST DIVISION

|                                  |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Dulwich Hill vs C'beltown Rams   | 0-2 | 2-2 |
| Lemnos Allstars vs Central Coast | 1-4 | 1-6 |
| West Wanderers vs Cyprus Utd     | 4-3 | 2-1 |
| Petersham Lus vs Polonia         | 1-1 | 3-3 |
| Mt Pritchard vs Gladesville Hby  | 1-1 | 2-0 |
| Mt Druitt vs Granville Chile     | 4-2 | 4-0 |
| Liverpool Yugal vs Auburn Utd    | 1-1 | 0-0 |

## STATE LEAGUE: SECOND DIVISION

|                               |     |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Western Dist vs Penrith       | 1-1 | 2-0 |
| Uni of NSW vs Pt Hacking      | 2-0 | 2-2 |
| Fraser Pk vs Belmore Hercules | 0-1 | 7-2 |
| Bathurst '75 vs Concord Jnrs  | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Hills Utd vs Bankstown        | 0-1 | 1-2 |
| Nth Ryde vs Nineveh Eagles    | 1-1 | 1-0 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE: THIRD

|                                   |     |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Trasandinos vs Alexander          | 1-4 | 1-2 |
| SSC Zagreb vs Arncliffe           | 4-3 | 2-2 |
| Sporting Peru vs Spanish Club     | 0-3 | 0-1 |
| Prospect Utd vs Colo Colo         | 3-1 | 3-5 |
| Hajduk Rangers vs Hawkesbury Dist | 1-1 | 2-0 |
| Orange Waratahs vs Pagewood Bot   | 2-1 | 2-1 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE: FOURTH

|                                 |     |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Sydney Uni vs Abruzzi           | 0-2 | 0-1 |
| Springwood vs Balmain           | 1-1 | 2-2 |
| CSI Schofields vs Macquarie Uni | 2-4 | 2-3 |
| New Welcome vs Fogolar Furlan   | 1-3 | 0-4 |
| Lithgow Wkm vs GNS United       | 1-2 | 3-0 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE: FIFTH

|                                    |         |     |
|------------------------------------|---------|-----|
| Western Subs vs URM                | 3-3     | 0-1 |
| Greystanes vs Club Calabria        | 0-0     | 2-1 |
| Maccabi Hakoah vs St Josephs       | 2-1     | 4-2 |
| Pontian Eagles vs Gladesville Utd  | 1-4     | 2-3 |
| Fairfield Eagles vs Kingsgrove App | forfeit |     |
| Phoenix Celtic vs Sydney Cretans   | 4-1     | 1-1 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE: SIXTH

|                                   |               |     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| Ashbury vs Sth Liverpool          | 0-0 (pen 1-3) |     |
| Punchbowl Dist vs Marrickville    | 2-2 (pen 4-2) |     |
| <b>WOMENS STATE LEAGUE: FIRST</b> |               |     |
| Sutherland Shire vs Western Dist  | 0-4           | 1-1 |
| Gladesville Raven vs Marconi      | 0-3           | 0-2 |
| Avala vs Liverpool City           | 2-1           | 5-0 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 2 GR 1

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Belmore H    | 22 | 14 | 7 | 0 | 1  | 55 | 22 | 58 |
| Bathurst 75  | 22 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 4  | 33 | 22 | 44 |
| Fraser Park  | 22 | 12 | 1 | 4 | 5  | 36 | 18 | 42 |
| North Ryde   | 22 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 7  | 40 | 26 | 42 |
| Nineveh Eag  | 22 | 8  | 6 | 0 | 6  | 37 | 27 | 40 |
| Pt Hacking   | 22 | 8  | 6 | 1 | 7  | 34 | 35 | 37 |
| Western Dist | 22 | 8  | 5 | 1 | 8  | 36 | 39 | 35 |
| Concord Jnrs | 22 | 8  | 3 | 1 | 10 | 31 | 35 | 31 |
| Bankstown    | 22 | 5  | 3 | 2 | 12 | 19 | 43 | 23 |
| Hills Utd    | 22 | 4  | 4 | 2 | 12 | 20 | 37 | 22 |
| Penrith      | 22 | 4  | 4 | 2 | 12 | 28 | 42 | 22 |
| Uni of NSW   | 22 | 5  | 2 | 1 | 14 | 22 | 39 | 20 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 2

|               |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Abruzzi       | 20 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 2  | 48 | 21 | 50 |
| GNS Utd       | 20 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 3  | 49 | 22 | 47 |
| Fogolar Fur   | 20 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 5  | 52 | 30 | 44 |
| Balmain       | 20 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3  | 41 | 26 | 44 |
| Sydney Uni    | 20 | 7  | 5 | 1 | 7  | 33 | 26 | 32 |
| Springwood    | 20 | 6  | 5 | 2 | 7  | 26 | 28 | 30 |
| CSI Schof's   | 20 | 7  | 1 | 2 | 10 | 29 | 37 | 25 |
| Chile Spts    | 20 | 5  | 4 | 0 | 11 | 32 | 54 | 23 |
| New Wel       | 20 | 5  | 3 | 0 | 12 | 29 | 43 | 21 |
| Lithgow Wk    | 20 | 3  | 3 | 0 | 14 | 27 | 44 | 15 |
| Macquarie Uni | 20 | 3  | 3 | 0 | 14 | 19 | 54 | 15 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 2 GR 2

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Pt Hacking   | 22 | 15 | 4 | 1 | 2  | 45 | 16 | 54 |
| Bathurst 75  | 22 | 13 | 5 | 1 | 3  | 62 | 24 | 50 |
| Fraser Park  | 22 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 5  | 40 | 24 | 45 |
| Concord J    | 22 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 5  | 41 | 27 | 45 |
| Hills Utd    | 22 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 7  | 36 | 25 | 38 |
| Bankstown    | 22 | 8  | 4 | 3 | 7  | 31 | 28 | 35 |
| Belmore H    | 22 | 8  | 6 | 0 | 10 | 31 | 46 | 30 |
| Nth Ryde     | 22 | 7  | 3 | 2 | 10 | 24 | 38 | 29 |
| Uni of NSW   | 22 | 6  | 3 | 0 | 13 | 21 | 39 | 24 |
| Western Dist | 22 | 4  | 5 | 1 | 12 | 22 | 40 | 23 |
| Penrith      | 22 | 4  | 1 | 6 | 11 | 22 | 39 | 20 |
| Nineveh E    | 22 | 2  | 4 | 2 | 14 | 28 | 60 | 16 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 1

|             |    |    |   |   |    |    |     |    |
|-------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|----|
| Greystanes  | 22 | 16 | 2 | 1 | 3  | 58 | 16  | 53 |
| Maccabi H   | 22 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 4  | 52 | 19  | 50 |
| Glades U    | 22 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 7  | 54 | 26  | 42 |
| Syd Cret's  | 22 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7  | 39 | 36  | 41 |
| Pontian E   | 22 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 8  | 54 | 38  | 38 |
| Club Cal    | 22 | 9  | 5 | 1 | 7  | 37 | 33  | 38 |
| URM         | 22 | 7  | 6 | 1 | 8  | 35 | 40  | 34 |
| St Josephs  | 22 | 6  | 3 | 1 | 10 | 55 | 32  | 31 |
| Phoenix C   | 22 | 6  | 3 | 1 | 10 | 36 | 46  | 31 |
| Western S   | 22 | 6  | 4 | 1 | 11 | 31 | 46  | 27 |
| Fairfield E | 22 | 4  | 4 | 1 | 13 | 23 | 52  | 21 |
| Kgrove A    | 22 | 1  | 2 | 1 | 18 | 14 | 102 | 8  |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 3 GR 1

|             |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Spanish C   | 22 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 5  | 48 | 30 | 44 |
| Pagewood B  | 22 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 4  | 40 | 22 | 43 |
| Trasandinos | 22 | 9  | 8 | 0 | 5  | 47 | 30 | 43 |
| Prospect U  | 22 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 6  | 36 | 28 | 41 |
| SSC Zagreb  | 22 | 8  | 7 | 2 | 5  | 34 | 31 | 40 |
| Hajduk R    | 22 | 9  | 5 | 1 | 7  | 40 | 34 | 38 |
| Alexander   | 22 | 7  | 7 | 1 | 7  | 38 | 41 | 38 |
| Colo Colo   | 22 | 8  | 4 | 0 | 10 | 38 | 38 | 32 |
| Arncliffe   | 22 | 8  | 3 | 0 | 11 | 43 | 46 | 30 |
| Sporting P  | 22 | 7  | 4 | 0 | 11 | 27 | 56 | 29 |
| Orange War  | 22 | 5  | 3 | 2 | 12 | 24 | 35 | 23 |
| Hbury D     | 22 | 3  | 6 | 1 | 12 | 18 | 40 | 22 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 5 GR 2

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Phoenix Cell | 22 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 3  | 68 | 31 | 52 |
| Greystanes   | 22 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 3  | 46 | 16 | 49 |
| Syd Cretans  | 22 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 4  | 43 | 30 | 46 |
| Glades Utd   | 22 | 10 | 5 | 4 | 3  | 48 | 28 | 44 |
| Fairfield E  | 22 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 7  | 50 | 37 | 40 |
| Maccabi Hak  | 22 | 9  | 3 | 2 | 8  | 52 | 37 | 35 |
| St Josephs   | 22 | 9  | 2 | 1 | 10 | 41 | 35 | 32 |
| Club Cal     | 22 | 9  | 1 | 2 | 10 | 48 | 43 | 31 |
| URM          | 22 | 6  | 5 | 1 | 12 | 25 | 51 | 25 |
| Western Sub  | 22 | 5  | 2 | 3 | 12 | 25 | 44 | 22 |
| Pontian E    | 22 | 7  | 0 | 1 | 14 | 36 | 64 | 22 |
| Kgrove A     | 22 | 1  | 0 | 2 | 21 | 24 | 90 | 3  |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 3 GR 2

|             |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Pagewood B  | 22 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 3  | 54 | 20 | 51 |
| Hajduk R    | 22 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 4  | 52 | 20 | 51 |
| Arncliffe   | 22 | 12 | 4 | 0 | 6  | 45 | 31 | 44 |
| Alexander   | 22 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7  | 40 | 28 | 41 |
| SSC Zagreb  | 22 | 9  | 7 | 0 | 6  | 39 | 33 | 41 |
| Prospect U  | 22 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 7  | 34 | 31 | 39 |
| Colo Colo   | 22 | 9  | 4 | 0 | 9  | 41 | 47 | 35 |
| Orange War  | 22 | 8  | 3 | 1 | 10 | 37 | 48 | 31 |
| Trasandinos | 22 | 5  | 7 | 0 | 10 | 36 | 38 | 28 |
| Spanish C   | 22 | 6  | 2 | 2 | 12 | 27 | 39 | 24 |
| Sporting P  | 22 | 4  | 2 | 0 | 16 | 18 | 58 | 16 |
| Hbury Dist  | 22 | 2  | 4 | 0 | 16 | 14 | 46 | 14 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 6 GR 1

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |     |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|----|
| Glebe W      | 18 | 15 | 1 | 0 | 2  | 87 | 15  | 47 |
| Marrickville | 18 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 3  | 60 | 28  | 42 |
| Sth L'pool   | 17 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 3  | 82 | 20  | 41 |
| Ashbury      | 18 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 5  | 48 | 34  | 37 |
| Punchbowl    | 18 | 8  | 3 | 0 | 7  | 52 | 41  | 30 |
| Rockdale     | 18 | 7  | 4 | 0 | 7  | 46 | 46  | 29 |
| Kogarah      | 18 | 5  | 2 | 2 | 9  | 42 | 38  | 21 |
| Enmore P     | 17 | 3  | 1 | 1 | 12 | 26 | 66  | 12 |
| AS Roma      | 18 | 3  | 1 | 1 | 13 | 17 | 59  | 12 |
| Sydney SF    | 18 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 17 | 18 | 111 | 3  |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 1

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Abruzzi      | 20 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 3  | 55 | 22 | 46 |
| GNS Utd      | 20 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 3  | 42 | 30 | 44 |
| Lithgow W    | 20 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4  | 36 | 26 | 41 |
| Fogolar Fur  | 20 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5  | 44 | 33 | 40 |
| Sydney Uni   | 20 | 9  | 3 | 2 | 6  | 32 | 27 | 35 |
| Balmain      | 20 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8  | 44 | 37 | 34 |
| New Welcome  | 20 | 7  | 6 | 0 | 7  | 30 | 30 | 33 |
| Springwood   | 20 | 7  | 6 | 0 | 7  | 28 | 33 | 33 |
| Chile Spts   | 20 | 4  | 4 | 2 | 10 | 34 | 42 | 22 |
| CSI S'fields | 20 | 0  | 7 | 0 | 13 | 27 | 52 | 14 |
| Macquarie U  | 20 | 1  | 4 | 0 | 15 | 25 | 65 | 11 |

## FEDERATION LEAGUE 6 GR 2

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |     |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|----|
| Marrickville | 18 | 15 | 2 | 0 | 1  | 79 | 9   | 49 |
| Punchbowl    | 18 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 4  | 58 | 25  | 39 |
| Sth L'pool   | 17 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 3  | 60 | 16  | 38 |
| Glebe Wand   | 18 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 6  | 64 | 27  | 34 |
| Ashbury      | 18 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 6  | 59 | 38  | 34 |
| Kogarah      | 18 | 9  | 1 | 0 | 8  | 48 | 33  | 31 |
| Rockdale     | 18 | 5  | 3 | 0 | 10 | 31 | 58  | 11 |
| AS Roma      | 18 | 3  | 3 | 1 | 11 | 28 | 57  | 16 |
| Enmore P     | 17 | 2  | 1 | 1 | 13 | 20 | 71  | 9  |
| Sydney SF    | 18 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 16 | 14 | 118 | 5  |

## DYNAMIC

BY TOM ANDERSON

**DYNAMIC** defender Darren Stewart will certainly not forget the 1991-92 soccer season as long as he lives!

For it's been a season where everything has happened to this blockbusting performer.

He started the season as the star of the Apia NSL outfit and went from strength to strength.

He became a giant in the colours of the Leichhardt club.

This brought him a deserved call-up into the Socceroo squad.

And, this really put the icing on the Stewart cake.

But this was only the start of the fireworks.

At the end of the season, Apia were thrown out of the NSL!

This was a cruel blow to Stewart and his mates.

However another door opened and it allowed Darren to sign for his local NSL side - the Newcastle Breakers.

But it didn't end there!

The bold Stewart then decided to play the NSL off-season in the State Super League with Blacktown City just to fill in the time as it were!

As expected Darren has been one of the big stars in the State Super League and has added great lustre to the scene.

Darren Stewart is a real 'players, player'.

He's a hundred percent if ever there was one.

This fellow plays it hard - but fair. He never asks a

quarter and certainly doesn't give one!

It's players such as Stewart who are the life blood of Australian soccer.



DARREN STEWART

## ADAMSTOWN STAR John McQuarrie



## SUPER LEAGUE

|                   | P  | W  | SD | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|-------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Avala             | 22 | 12 | 6  | 1 | 3  | 39 | 19 | 49  |
| Warringah Dolphin | 22 | 11 | 4  | 2 | 5  | 34 | 15 | 43  |
| Blacktown City    | 22 | 10 | 3  | 3 | 6  | 30 | 24 | 39  |
| Canberra Metro    | 22 | 10 | 4  | 1 | 7  | 26 | 23 | 39  |
| Adamstown R       | 22 | 8  | 7  | 1 | 6  | 26 | 26 | 39  |
| Sydney Mac        | 22 | 11 | 0  | 4 | 7  | 39 | 30 | 37  |
| C'bury Marr       | 22 | 9  | 3  | 1 | 9  | 31 | 29 | 34  |
| Sutherland        | 22 | 7  | 3  | 3 | 9  | 22 | 28 | 30  |
| W'gong Mac        | 22 | 5  | 4  | 4 | 9  | 23 | 33 | 27  |
| R'dale Ilinden    | 22 | 6  | 2  | 2 | 12 | 26 | 38 | 24  |
| St George BSC     | 22 | 5  | 4  | 1 | 12 | 25 | 39 |     |





WARRINGAH 1  
BLACKTOWN 0

BY  
ALISTAIR RUSSELL

**THE DEMONS** finally succumbed to a late Sam Pannetta winner, after fluffing a penalty and playing the final 15 minutes with ten men at Cromer Park on Sunday.

The two sides most likely to challenge Avala for the Championship will meet again in the preliminary semi final this weekend at Jensen Park, after the visitors still managed to squeak into the top three on goal difference.

Jason Connolly was marched in the 75th minute for a reckless second offence, leaving the desperate Demons light at the back for the crucial final minutes.

Earlier the ever reliable Stephane Jee should have given the visitors some breathing space, but screwed his spot kick wide of the target after Scott Xuereb was flattened in the 57th minute.

The match was marred by unsavoury tactics, particularly on Demon play maker Jee, and with several players booked, the contest turned into a disappointing stop-start midfield scrap.

The early chances fell to the more determined Demons, Geoff Gunning tenaciously won the ball on the left, before sending over a rocket cross that just eluded the flying Xuereb who needed a mere touch to score the opener.

From the resulting corner, Craig Mason rose well but looped his header just over the top in the 13th minute.

Xuereb fed Steve Berry in the 19th minute, with just a defender and the keeper to beat, Berry slew his effort wide of the mark.

Berry forever sniffing for an opening again was close as he just failed to turn home a long lobbed ball from Gunning in the 25th minute.

The Dolphins best and only chance in the entire opening 45 minutes forced a good save from Alex McPherson, and the dour battle remained scoreless at the break.

Blacktown carried on where they left off, Gunning shooting on the turn sent his effort a metre wide in the 46th minute.

# NSW SOCCER FEDERATION



CANBERRA  
AVALA

BY GRAHAM  
COOKE

**CANBERRA Metro** completed a second consecutive season unbeaten at home when it held champion-elect Avala to a 1-1 draw at Deakin Oval on Sunday.

The result assured Canberra of a place in the play-offs — its fifth appearance in six NSW League seasons.

And despite fears of crowd trouble between

Avala's Serbian and Canberra's Croatian supporters, the action was largely restricted to the playing field. Sydney fans heeded a plea from their community leaders to stay away and there were no more than 30 in the area of the ground reserved for them.

Metro supporters did turn up in numbers not seen for a couple of seasons but incidents were limited to nationalist songs and a couple of firecrackers.

Lemezina, the hard-working Stan Dukic and Fadil Muriqi were among Canberra's best, while captain

Doug Marcina, making his 98th first-team appearance, was as efficient as usual.

Former Canberra City favourite Andrew Brockbank starred for Avala, along with Foster an Miro Radosavljevic, nominally a central defender but who seemed to be everywhere on the field in search of the action.

Brockbank got a painful welcome back to his old stamping ground — just seconds into the game an attempted long ball upfield from Muriqi buried into his midriff. The veteran grimaced but was soon back in full

flight.

The Metros were nearly punished for leaving David Batten unmarked at the far post during a corner, but he needlessly hurried his shot and only found the side netting.

Marcina judged an overlapping run to perfection, leaving the Avala midfield trailing. His cross was heading straight for Lemezina, but Radosavljevic managed to get a foot to the ball, deflecting it harmlessly away.

There was no such let-off for the visitors in the 23rd minute. They got themselves

into all kinds of trouble trying the clear the ball. Ante Juric's shot rebounded but only as far as Lemezina who hit a rising shot past goalkeeper Craig Carter and into the roof of the net.

It was just what the noisy home crowd had been waiting for as they saluted the striker's 13th goal of the season.

Metro goalkeeper Anthony Giannasca, troubled by a thigh injury for several weeks now, was substituted almost immediately and deputy Paul Jones was quickly into action, grabbing a corner

at the second attempt as he was pressured by Scott Ashton.

The home side missed a great chance to take a tighter grip on the game when Peter Mazis set up Muriqi. He dribbled round Carter but Adosavljevic, storming across to cover, toe-poked the shot from the line.

Avala equalised with a goal which could and should have been avoided.

## NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

### FINAL SERIES SUPER LEAGUE

#### SUNDAY AUGUST 30 — SEYMOUR SHAW

##### Elimination Semi Final

1st Grade: Canberra Metro Vs Adamstown Rusebuds 3.00pm

##### Preliminary Semi Final

U/19's: Canberra Metro Vs Adamstown Rosebuds 1.00pm

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 — SERBIAN CENTRE

##### Preliminary Semi Final

1st Grade: Warringah Dolphins Vs Blacktown City 3.00pm

##### Elimination Semi Final

U/19's: Warringah Dolphins Vs Blacktown City 1.00pm

### FEDERATION DIVISION ONE

#### SUNDAY AUGUST 30 — ARLINGTON OVAL

##### Preliminary Semi Final

1st Grade: Auburn United Vs Central Coast 3.00pm

##### Elimination Semi Final

U/19's: Auburn United Vs Campbelltown Rams 1.00pm

#### SUNDAY AUGUST 30 — ERNIE SMITH

##### Elimination Semi Final

1st Grade: Mt Druitt Vs Petersham 3.00pm

##### Preliminary Semi Final

U/19's: Dulwich Hill Vs West Wanderers 1.00pm

### FEDERATION DIVISION TWO

#### MINOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME B: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — COOK PARK

1st Grade: Fraser Park Vs North Ryde 3.00pm

Reserve: Fraser Park Vs Concord Juniors 1.00pm

#### MAJOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME A: SUNDAY AUGUST 30 — COOK PARK

1st Grade: Belmore Hercules Vs Bathurst 75 3.00pm

Reserve Grade: Port Hacking Vs Bathurst 75 1.00pm

### FEDERATION DIVISION THREE

#### MINOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME B: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — POPODETTA PARK

1st Grade: Trasandinos Vs Prospect United 3.00pm

Reserve: Arncliffe Vs Alexander 1.00pm

#### MAJOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME A: SUNDAY AUGUST 30 — POPODETTA PARK

1st Grade: Spanish Club Vs Pagewood Botany 3.00pm

Reserve Grade: Pagewood Botany Vs Hadjuk Rangers 1.00pm

### FEDERATION DIVISION FOUR

#### MINOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME B: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — LAMBERT PARK

1st Grade: Lithgow Workmens Vs Fogolar Furlan 3.00pm

Reserve: Fogolar Furlan Vs Balmain 1.00pm

#### MAJOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME A: SUNDAY AUGUST 30 — LAMBERT PARK

1st Grade: Abruzzi Vs GNS United 3.00pm

Reserve Grade: Abruzzi Vs GNS United 1.00pm

### FEDERATION DIVISION FIVE

#### MINOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME B: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — VALENTINE PARK 1

1st Grade: Gladesville United Vs Sydney Cretans 3.00pm

Reserve: Sydney Cretans Vs Gladesville United 1.00pm

#### MAJOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME A: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — VALENTINE PARK 1

1st Grade: Greystanes Vs Maccabi Hakoah 7.30pm

Reserve Grade: Phoenix Celtic Vs Greystanes 5.30pm

### WOMENS SOCCER LEAGUE

#### MINOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME B: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — VALENTINE PARK 3

1st Grade: Marconi Vs Avala 3.00pm

Reserve: Western Districts Vs Sutherland Shire 1.00pm

#### MAJOR SEMI FINAL

##### GAME A: SATURDAY AUGUST 29 — VALENTINE PARK 2

1st Grade: Western Districts Vs Sydney Olympic 7.30pm

Reserve Grade: Sydney Olympic Vs Marconi 5.30pm

### FEDERATION DIVISION SIX

#### GRAND FINAL

1st Grade: Glebe Wanderers Vs South Liverpool

Reserve Grade: South Liverpool Vs Punchbowl District

#### SATURDAY AUGUST 29

##### Valentine Park 2

1st Grade: 3.00pm — Reserve Grade: 12.30pm

### WARATAH STATE CUP

#### SEMI-FINALS — GABBIE STADIUM WED SEPT 2

CANBERRA METRO Vs PETERSHAM LUSITANOS 6.30PM

AVALA Vs MT DRUITT TOWN 8.15PM

**DON'T MISS THE CUP ACTION!**

(The final will be played at the Gabbie Stadium on Sat September 26 at 3pm, preceded by the final of the Women's Waratah Shield at 1pm)

ALL MATCHES TIMES (Unless otherwise stated)

1ST GRADE 3PM UNDER 19 1PM

PHONE RESULTS SERVICE 0055 22681

CALLS CHARGED AT THE RATE OF 55 CENTS PER MINUTE





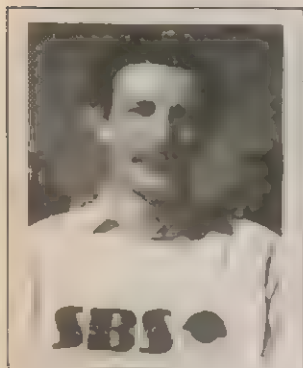
**SAMSUNG**

# NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

*Real*

## FEDERATION DIVISION ONE - ROUND UP AND RESULTS

### FINAL ROUND



BY PAUL GOODWIN

ON the last weekend of scheduled premiership matches interest was focused on which teams would qualify for the semi-finals in both grades and there were some surprises.

For Dulwich Hill there was double disappointment, for not only did the senior side dip out 2-0 to Campbelltown at Arlington and miss even the possibility of climbing over Petersham into fifth spot, but the Under-19s were held to a 2-2 draw and wound up missing the minor premiership on goal difference.

Dulwich Hill went into the first grade match with a few injury problems and although still scoreless at the 75 minute mark had already replaced Norman Tome and pushed Robin Younan up into an unfamiliar attacking role.

The visiting Rams went close twice in the first few minutes. Conroy Filies had a face to face with Frank Mikuletic which saw the 'keeper parry the ball and when Filies had another stab at it Ian Gillan was there to boot off the line.

Kevin McMullan also shot wide when he benefitted from a good move involving Peter Treacy.

At the other end George Johnson dribbled around Steve Blackburn, but then blasted over when facing only the goalie in the 20th.

Filies worked the ball to Ray Carney down the left side in the 75th and from the chip by Carney Treacy was able to nod in the first goal at the far post.

In a breakaway move Ian Wotherspoon was able to lob past Mikuletic for the second in the 86th to give his side, The Rams, their ninth win of the season, thus securing eight spot for them.

At Popondetta Park Mount Druitt had a good 4-2 win over strugglers Granville Chile, though it must be said the visitors had their share of problems before and during the game.

Alex Araujo had been sick, Jason Cooper went down with tonsillitis on the morning of the match and Bryan Cokley pulled a back muscle just ten minutes into the game and had to come off.

Mount Druitt led through a 15th minute free kick header by Don Campbell. Troy Shipley had sent the ball over from the left fully intending that the big red-headed defender would outjump the defence and he did just that.

Wayne Farnsworth had only John Perosh to beat later in the half, but the goalie did well to smother the shot.

When Granville did score the

equaliser in the 47th it was Alex Araujo who got the ball over the line when a shot by Alex Aravena had rebounded off the legs of a defender.

### BACK

Mount Druitt were back in front six minutes later when Craig Smith darted between two defenders to steal possession and plant the ball into the net.

Moments earlier Craig Jones had had a shot cleared off the line by Pat Agius after a dummy by Dennis Duarte to a ball cut back by Andy Ferris.

Farnsworth made it 3-1 in the 60th using all his cunning to shake off the defender and then Marcello Ortiz managed to baffle Derek Jenkins with a cross which the 'keeper could only help over the line.

Meanwhile John White blasted a penalty attempt over the bar and another Ortiz shot was cleared off the line, again by Agius.

To wrap it up Darren Pratt made it 4-2 in the 75th after a mix up, with the ball ending up in the bottom right corner.

The win did not help Mount Druitt gain third spot as Central Coast hung on to that honour with a second 4-1 win against Lemnos Allstars at Potts Park.

Lemnos led from a twice taken fifth minute penalty by Terry Patalis.

From the moment that Coasties coach Bruce James brought on substitute Paul Roberts the game began to go the way of the visitors.

Rod Brown was the major beneficiary from this move, though before that he had seen a header from a long Marc Prospero throw brilliantly saved by Mario Saia.

From his first touch of the ball Roberts made an impact, bringing out a top save from Saia.

Then from another Prospero throw Roberts flicked the ball on to Brown and a fine header from six metres produced the equaliser in the 55th.

A delightful ball by Prospero for Roberts led to a chip over the 'keeper for the 2-1 lead in the 64th. Roberts then hit the bar from the edge of the box and when the ball came down Brown volleyed it back over the line.

### HAT-TRICK

Finally, to get his hat-trick, Brown finished off a defence-splitting pass by Andrew Clarke to make it 4-1 in the 77th for a comprehensive victory by the Coasties who thus achieved their highest placing in the club's history under first season coach Bruce James.

Mount Pritchard and Gladesville played a 1-1 draw at Cook Park, neither side being able to break the deadlock in the first half.

It livened up in the last 25 minutes and from a good build up a cross in behind the defence caught the back of a defender's legs and ran free allowing the alert Ali Nagi to nip in and give Mounties the lead in the 72nd.

In the 84th Gladesville drew level, Pat Sullivan getting past his men on the right and finding Bernie Voloder who laid the ball on for substitute Ty Purnell at the far post for a tap in to leave Gladesville in 10th spot.

Mounties claimed that an 84th minute shot by Carlos Vanegas had crossed the line before Scott Gemell clawed it away, but before they could dwell on it the Bears

raced upfield and had Ian Dunn shooting over the bar in his anxiety to grab a late winner.

Seref Kumsuz and Leo Pintos had good games for the locals, while 28-year-old Pat Sullivan, captain for the day and 27 year old Neale Williamson made their final career appearances in Gladesville colours. Williamson had tried a season on a dicky knee and felt it had been touch and go, while Sullivan wanted to call it a day while still playing well in his full back position.

Petersham netted in the 7th minute against Polonia at The Wills Ground when a corner on the right by Robbie Lowe deceived the defence and left Darren Stephenson with the task of nodding the ball over the line.

Rod Wyatt burst through the centre to make it 1-1 for minutes into the second half to ensure Petersham fifth spot, should Dulwich Hill have done better in their own match nearby.

### SHARED

Liverpool and Auburn shared the spoils at Ernie Smith Reserve where the result did nothing to improve the position of either side.

Sasha Spirovski for Auburn in the 36th and Sacha Telisman in the 62nd were the respective scorers.

At The Gabbie Cyprus United brought along the champagne to celebrate their premiership and broke into it on the pitch after the game despite going down to West Wanderers in both grades.

A win in Under-19s would have sealed fifth spot, but Wests managed a 2-1 win.

The premiers' luck seemed to be much better in the first grade when they were two goals up at the break.

Wests were making a game of it, but could not finish and Cyprus capitalised on two defensive errors to score twice through Jason Bennett.

Then the home side got the break they needed when Gary Newson was felled by the 'keeper early in the second half and Billy Mannix scored from the spot kick.

It was all Wests from then on their long suffering supporters began to feel a glimmer of hope. Robbie Cook drove the ball into goal from just inside the area in the 67th after Mark Moffett had laid the ball back following good work on the left by Charwood and Mannix, bringing the scores level at 2-2.

Moffett then had a good effort tipped around the post by Paul Kyprianou as Wests began to look for the winner.

Bennett, looking for a possible hat-trick himself, made a jinxing run in the 72nd to bring a scare to the Wests camp, but Bennett's hot was palmed away by Mark Agius and the ball was eventually cleared.

### MAJOR PLAYER

Robbie Cook, the scorer of the second was a major player in the second half revival and set up Moffett for the third in the 81st.

The square ball was driven firmly past Kyprianou, diving low to his left and Cyprus knew that they had let the game slip away.

Three minutes later Gary Newson hit a delicate lob from the left of the area strike the angle of upright and bar. The ball rebounded to Moffett whose header found the net just as the 'keeper's attempted punch out missed the ball and felled the scorer, who though groggy, was



ROD BROWN... on goal trail

still able to get up and take the accolades.

Cyprus weren't finished, however, and Wests decision to bring on three substitutes for the last five minutes of their initial First Division season could have backfired, commendable as it was.

Bennett saw a gap and ran through it in the 90th to slide the ball past Scott Start for a final 4-3 scoreline.

It was a classy game, played in an excellent spirit and well worthy of the Gabbie setting. The loss did not dampen the spirits of the Cyprus team which had photos at both ends of the game and left the contents of a few bottles of bubbly on the rather arid Gabbie turf as they unwound after the final whistle.

### PREVIEW OF SEMI-FINALS

In the First Grade semi-finals being conducted at Arlington Oval and Ernie Smith Reserve, spectators have the choice of two very attractive fixtures.

The elimination game between Petersham and Mount Druitt is bound to be a close one and the game is going to be fought down to the last minute.

Steve Lombardo will be back for Petersham, but there is some doubt over Craig Bass and David Naylor is unlikely to be fit in time. Darren Stephenson, sent off in the Polonia game, will sit this one out.

Mount Druitt are favoured to get over this hurdle as Craig Smith is back on deck and Wayne Farnsworth seems capable of producing the goods now also after a troubled season.

The preliminary semi-final is one we expect Central Coast to win over Auburn United. Coast are coming good at the right time and have the luxury of Andrew Ollier and Jason Gribble on the bench.

The selection problems are now happy ones for Bruce James as he will need to decide whether to risk Paul Roberts from the start after his strong showing at the weekend, or stick with his starting line-up.

Auburn have gone off the boil a bit and may need another week to get back in touch.

### FEDERATION DIV 1 GR 1

|              |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Cyprus Utd.  | 25 | 14 | 8  | 1 | 3  | 47 | 27 | 59 |
| Auburn Utd.  | 25 | 13 | 8  | 1 | 4  | 41 | 33 | 56 |
| Central C.   | 25 | 12 | 6  | 3 | 5  | 39 | 24 | 51 |
| Mt Druitt    | 25 | 12 | 7  | 0 | 7  | 52 | 34 | 50 |
| Pisham L.    | 25 | 8  | 11 | 1 | 6  | 38 | 33 | 47 |
| Mt Pritchard | 25 | 11 | 4  | 2 | 9  | 44 | 38 | 43 |
| Dulwich H.   | 25 | 11 | 5  | 0 | 10 | 43 | 39 | 43 |
| Ctown R.     | 25 | 9  | 5  | 2 | 10 | 40 | 34 | 38 |
| West Wand.   | 25 | 9  | 5  | 2 | 10 | 40 | 34 | 38 |
| Gladesville  | 25 | 6  | 10 | 0 | 10 | 39 | 44 | 38 |
| Liverpool Y. | 25 | 7  | 8  | 1 | 10 | 27 | 39 | 38 |
| Gville C.    | 25 | 7  | 5  | 1 | 13 | 34 | 48 | 32 |
| Lemnos All   | 25 | 4  | 8  | 2 | 12 | 31 | 43 | 30 |
| Polonia      | 25 | 4  | 4  | 0 | 18 | 32 | 67 | 20 |

### UNDER 19

|              |    |    |   |   |    |    |     |    |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|----|
| Mt Pritchard | 25 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 5  | 75 | 22  | 62 |
| Dulwich H.   | 25 | 18 | 4 | 0 | 4  | 68 | 32  | 62 |
| West W.      | 25 | 16 | 4 | 2 | 4  | 61 | 16  | 58 |
| Auburn Utd.  | 25 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 7  | 39 | 25  | 46 |
| Ctown R.     | 25 | 9  | 8 | 1 | 8  | 37 | 42  | 44 |
| Gville Hby   | 25 | 9  | 8 | 0 | 9  | 36 | 44  | 43 |
| Mt Druitt    | 25 | 8  | 7 | 3 | 8  | 52 | 40  | 41 |
| Cyprus Utd.  | 25 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 41 | 35  | 41 |
| Central Cst  | 25 | 9  | 6 | 0 | 11 | 48 | 41  | 39 |
| Petersham    | 25 | 7  | 8 | 2 | 9  | 35 | 35  | 39 |
| Liverpool Y. | 25 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 46 | 62  | 36 |
| Lemnos A.    | 25 | 7  | 4 | 1 | 14 | 36 | 47  | 30 |
| Gville C.    | 25 | 5  | 3 | 1 | 17 | 30 | 70  | 22 |
| Polonia      | 25 | 1  | 2 | 0 | 23 | 24 | 117 | 7  |

Geoff Chew (MD)

7 Gary Newson (West), Carlos Vanegas (MP), Allan Goldsworthy (Pet), Peter Treacy (Camp)

6 Rod Brown (CC), Rodney Wyatt (Pol), Billy Mannix (West), Gurkan Tasdemir (Aub), Andrew Charwood (West), John White (MD), Darren Pratt (MD)

5 Wayne Farnsworth (MD), Terry Patalis (Lem), Kevin Vella (Pol), Derek Caisley (DH), Gerry Lepkowski (GH), Ray Carney (Camp), Sasha Telisman (Liv)

4 Anthony Versi (MP), Andrew Ollier (CC), Christian Ortiz (Aub), George Foundas (Cyp), Tony Perinich (Liv), Andy Ferris (Grv), Rene Licata (Liv), Leo Pintos (MP), Miro Mikulic (Pol), Marcello Ortiz (Grv)

3 Robbie Cook (Wests), Robbie Lowe (Pet), George Hatjioffis (Cyp), Gary Hatton (MP), Rodney Sepping (Pol), Alberto Arbelo (DH), Alex Aravena (Grv), Steve Lombardo (Pet), Danny Cerjak (West), Troy Shipley (MD), John Kakakios (Lem), Robert Harmat (Liv), Craig Bass (Pet), Richie Celarc (Camp), George Johnson (DH), Don Campbell (MD)

2 Joe Watson (Cyp), Sepp Disch (Pet), Dominic Usali (Lem), Jason Cooper (Grv), Fabian Kadric (Aub), Wally Apanian (Liv), Dale Eggleton (CC), Steve Chilas (Cyp), Peter Dameski (DH), Paul Mamo (GH), Sergio Battista (Liv), Andrew Sharpe (CC), Warren Hayward (Pet), Anthony Driene (MP), Ennio Morson (DH), Mike Doyle (Cyp), John Gregson (Aub), Ugur Taskin (Aub), Neale Williamson (GH), Seref Kumsuz (MP), Dave Fleming (GH), David Ratcliffe (MP), Eddie Clune (MD), Dennis Duarte (Grv), Elias Augerinos (Lem), Nick Plateniotis (Cyp), Ian Dunn (GH), David Kevern (Pet), Tony Genovese (DH), Shaun Freestone (Lem), Craig Smith (MD), Sasha Spirovski (Aub), Ian Wotherspoon (Camp).

### RESULTS ROUND 26

West Wanderers 4 (Mannix pen, Moffett 2, R. Cook)  
Cyprus United 3 (Bennett 3)

Liverpool City Yugal 1  
(Telisman) Auburn United 1  
(Spirovski)

Mount Pritchard 1 (Nagi)  
Gladesville Hornsby 1  
(Purnell)

Mount Druitt 4 (Campbell, Smith, Farnsworth, Pratt)  
Granville Chile 2 (Araujo, M. Ortiz)

Petersham 1 (Stephenson)  
Polonia 1 (Wyatt)

Dulwich Hill 0 Campbelltown  
2 (Treacy, Wotherspoon)

Lemnos Allstars 1 (Patalis pen)  
Central Coast 4 (Brown 3, Roberts)

### LEADING SCORERS

22 Norman Tome (DH)  
19 Bernie Voloder (GH)  
15 Jason Bennett (Cyp), Ali Nagi (MP)  
14 Scott McArdle (MD)  
13 Alex Araujo (Grv)  
11 Steve Karavatakis (Cyp)  
10 Paul Roberts (CC), Ozcan Celik (Aub), Glenn Jeffery (Pet), Adam Kwasniewski (Pol)  
9 Mark Moffett (Wests), Conroy Filies (Camp), Mike Pillemer (Lem), Vernon Porter (Camp)  
8 Moon Kyung Kim (Aub), Jason Gribble (CC),



## One-man crusade



DENNIS BERGKAMP

**AJAX Amsterdam striker Ron Willems is staging a one-man crusade to find himself an English club.**

Willems, who is available at around \$900,000, has been watched by Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson and played in a hush-hush trial for Everton against Borussia Moenchengladbach recently.

And the 27-year-old powerhouse, who cannot dislodge Dennis Bergkamp from the Ajax side, has set his heart on playing in England saying: "It is the only place I want to play. I think I could do a really good job for a top club."

## FLAMENGO TOO GOOD

**BRAZILIAN champions Flamengo completed a dominating sweep of their three-match South African tour with a 4-0 victory over the Bloemfontein Celtics club.**

Flamengo outscored the three South African clubs it faced by 10-2 over the three matches.

Paulo Nunes scored again for Flamengo, giving him four goals in the three matches.

Djalma scored twice and Gaucho once for the visitors.

South Africa returned to international soccer this year after a 28-year ban under a sports boycott to protest apartheid.

The national side finished even with Cameroun last month in a three-match series, with each team winning once and losing once.

They played one draw.

Crystal Palace also visited in July and split two matches with top South African clubs.

Flamengo defeated Jomo Cosmos 4-2 in its first match then beat Amazulu 2-0 before the final match of the tour in Bloemfontein.

## ITALY REMAINS MECCA FOR THE WORLD'S BEST

BY LOU GAUTIER



JONAS THERN

**THE Italian First Division is in a league of its own in world football.**

It attracts the world's best players, who can't wait to join the rich Italian clubs.

This season, however, the pressure on them will be immense as most clubs have more than the quota of three allowed to take the field at the same time.

Some of the world's top players will be mere reserves.

In AC Milan, for instance, there is no room — at least as of now — for superstars like Dejan Savicevic and Ruud Gullit — would you believe?

And Lothar Matthaus is not a starter at Inter Milan either!

The full complement of foreigners in the First Division is:

**ANCONA:** Zarate (Argentina), Ruggeri (Argentina), Detari (Hungary).

**ATALANTA:** Montero (Uruguay), Rodriguez (Argentina), Valenciano (Colombia).

**ARESCIA:** Raducioiu (Romania), Sabau (Romania), Hagi (Romania).

**CAGLIARI:** Francescoli (Uruguay), Oliveira (Belgium), Tejera (Uruguay).

**FIORENTINA:** Effenberg (Germany), B. Laudrup (Denmark), Latorre (Argentina), Batistuta (Argentina), Dunga (Brazil), Mazinho (Brazil).

**FOGGIA:** Kolyvanov (Russia), Petrescu (Romania).

**GENOA:** Skuhravy (Czechoslovakia), Dobrovolsky (Belarus), Van't Schip (Holland), Branco (Brazil).

**AC MILAN:** Papin (France), Gullit (Holland), Rijkaard (Holland), van Basten (Holland), Boban (Croatia), Savicevic (Montenegro).

**INTER MILAN:** Shalimov (Russia), Sammer (Germany), Pancev (Macedonia), Matthaus (Germany), Sosa (Uruguay).

**JUVENTUS:** Platt (England), Moeller (Germany), Kohler (Germany), Cesar (Brazil).

**LAZIO:** Gascoigne (England), Winter (Holland), Riedle (Germany), Doll (Germany).

**NAPOLI:** Thern (Sweden), Fonseca (Uruguay), Careca (Brazil), Blanc (France), Alemao (Brazil).

**PARMA:** Taffarel (Brazil), Asprilla (Colombia), Berti (Argentina), Brolin (Sweden), Grun (Belgium).

**PESCARA:** Mendy (Senegal), Sliskovic (Croatia), Sivebaek (Denmark).

**ROMA:** Caniggia (Argentina), Mihajlovic (Serbia), Hassler (Germany), Aldair (Brazil).

**SAMPDORIA:** Walker (England), Jugovic (Serbia), Katanec (Slovenia).

**TORINO:** Aguilera (Uruguay), Scifo (Belgium), Casagrande (Brazil).

**UDINESE:** Balbo (Argentina), Sensini (Argentina).



**ION SABAU** — the Romanian star has been transferred from Feyenoord to Pescara this season.

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## JUVENTUS TRAIN LIKE MONKS

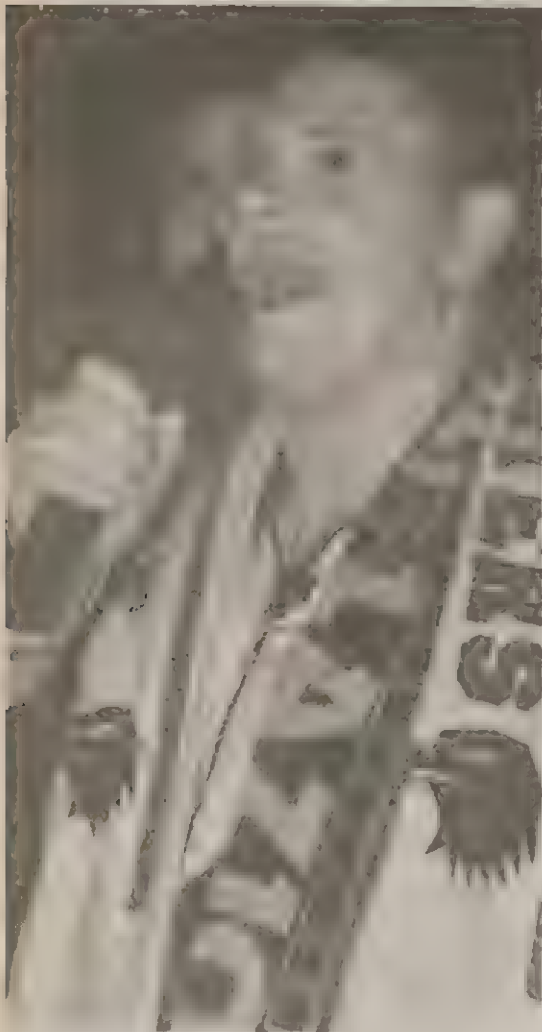
**THE Juventus players have been living like monks to ensure they are in tip-top shape for the new season starting on September 6 in Italy.**

The club's training camp, high up in the Swiss mountains at Macolin, has been described as a "football monastery".

There is nothing for the players to do apart from sleep, eat and train. There are no buses or taxis in the area but it didn't stop 10,000 fans trekking up the mountain — a three-hour trip from Turin — to see their idols train.



## GASCOIGNE DOUBT



LAZIO coach Dino Zoff wasn't upset when club doctors suggested Paul Gascoigne might not be ready to make his debut at the start of the Italian League programme next month.

Zoff says: "Gascoigne is a world class player and we want to see him at his best."

"If we have to hang on, that's no problem."

"After waiting this long we don't want to take any risks."

## Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



- Herbert Prohaska's successor as coach of Austrian champions, FK Austria Wien, who also won the Cup last season, is Hermann Stessl, who coached the Viennese club to the double in 1986. Austria's crosstown rivals, Rapid, also have a new coach — Gustl Starek, who replaces Hans Krunkl.
- Honved Kijpest have sacked coach Gyorgy Mezsey after failing to qualify for a European Cup berth next season. New man at the helm is Josef Verebes, a former Hungarian national team boss.
- Michel Hidalgo, who guided France to victory in the 1984 European soccer championship, would like to coach in Japan, a spokesman for Japan's new professional league said last week. Kazuki Sasaki said he would meet Hidalgo's French agent in Tokyo to hear about the coach's plans.
- There has been a last minute hitch in Danish fullback John Sivebaek's re-signing with Monaco. In the last minute, he decided to join newly-promoted Pescara of Italy, who paid him \$1 million as a signing-on fee.
- Hungarian ace Lajos Detari has left Bologna, now in the Italian Division Two to join newly promoted Ancona.
- Ioje Szabo is the new coach of Dynamo Kiev, a club in turmoil after failing to win the first-ever Ukrainian title. Kiev have lost two more internationals — Oleg Salenko and Akhrik Tsveiba — and Pavel Yakovenko is also about to go abroad.
- In the Hungarian play offs, Nyiregyhaza won promotion to First Division while Diosgyor kept their place in the elite, surviving challenges from Haladas and Budapest KV.
- Kappa are the new sponsors of Barcelona and the Catalan fans are not too happy about it. They have nothing against the sports goods firm, but their logo is white. That means Barca's famous blue and gold shirts will have a tinge of white — hated Real Madrids colours!

## NIELSEN QUITTING

FORMER Aston Villa defender Kent Nielsen has quit international soccer to spend more time with his family.

The 30-year-old Dane, who has been capped 54 times, said that he wanted to see more of his son Sebastian, born a few days after his side's European Championship success this summer.

Team manager Richard Moeller-Nielsen said: "He has been a leader on and off the pitch, and I think there are many good games left in him."

Nielsen, who plays for Danish team Aarhus, added that he might be prepared to help the national team in an emergency over the next few months.

## LITTARSKI COMEBACK

PIERRE Littbarski, one of Germany's World Cup-winning heroes two years ago, wants to make an international comeback.



"Litti", now 32, quit the international scene after the 1990 triumph in Italy to 'make way for younger men'.

But Germany's stumbling progress through to the recent European Championship Final has forced him to think again.

He says: "I realise that I am an older head but I feel as fit as ever."

If Berti Vogts wants me, he knows where to call."

## ITALIAN FORTUNE

ITALIAN clubs spent a record \$500 million on new players during the close season.

Milan and Juventus slugged it out at the top of the big-spenders league.

Good job transfers in Italy are permitted only during the off-season.



ABOVE — Brazilian international and FC Sao Paulo captain Rai, Socrates' brother, displays the Copa Libertadores won against Newell's Old Boys of Argentina. BELOW — Gary Lineker's T-shirt tells it all! The Englishman now plays for Japanese professional club Grampus Eight.





## GOLD MEDAL JOY DIMS SPANISH RIVALRIES

THE great, flag-waving battle over who owned the Spanish soul of the 1992 Olympics came down to the gold-medal game in futbol, or soccer, the world's and Spain's most popular sport.



Independence-minded Catalonians were out in force at all Olympic venues in Barcelona.

Spain beat Poland 3-2 before the Games' largest crowd, 95,000 soccer-mad fans in the country's largest (120,000 seats) stadium, Nou Camp.

It is the home of FC Barcelona, current Spanish and European champions and a very important symbol of Catalan pride.

And pride — whom did these Olympics belong to? — was a huge issue here.

Catalonia took the early lead at the Games.

Its flag, five red strips on a yellow field, almost totally predominated in the city's streets, representing local insistence that the Olympics were in "the country of Catalonia," culturally different from the rest of Spain.

Catalonian flags outnumbered those of Spain at most Olympic venues, even though Spain's historic harvest of medals (22, 13 of them gold) was produced by athletes from all over the country.

### FLAG

At the soccer final, the Spanish flag, two red stripes surrounding a yellow one, symbolically representing the idea that Spain is one nation, took the night.

It got a little help from the Spanish Soccer Federation, which handed out thousands of them.

But this huge crowd was different: Fans from across Spain, and from among the 1 million Barcelonians who trace their origins elsewhere, occupied Nou Camp with their own flags and banners.

Many proclaimed the names of far-off towns in Andalucia, a

southern Spanish region Catalonians sometimes view with little respect.

Andalucia is home to bull-fighting and flamenco, activities that Catalonians insist do not represent their tastes.

"It's a war of ideology," said Manuel Caravaca, an Andalusian-born, off-duty policeman, attending the game with his son, Victor, 8, and two Spanish flags.

"But I think things are beginning to work out just fine."

Throughout the soccer final, the stadium rocked to chants of *Espana, Espana* — Spain, Spain — an affront to hardcore Catalan claims of difference.

The last time the Spanish national team played there in 1987 only 15,000 people showed up.

When an Andalusian player known as Quico scored his second goal and the game-winner with seconds left, the stadium rocked.

Andalusian spirits soared into a distinctly non-Catalonian chant, "Torero... torero."

It means "bull-fighter", and elsewhere in Spain greets masterful performances in and out of the bullring.

"This is a historic moment for all of Spain," said Antonio Sainz, a Spanish journalist from Madrid.

"Look, all the Spanish journalists are shouting and going crazy."

So were the fans waving Catalan flags and chanting, "Champions... champions."

The moment, transcending sport and regionalism, sent virtually everyone home smiling.

## Shoot-out back

**THE American Professional Soccer League has resurrected the NASL-style shootout for the 1992 season.**

Instead of deciding matches that remain drawn after regulation and 15 minutes of extra-time with penalty kicks, the APSL will use the shootout.

An attacking player will line up on the 35-yard line and have five seconds to score a goal.

The goalie can challenge the shooter but cannot use his hands outside the penalty

area. The team with the most goals after each

team has taken five attempts will be the winner.

If the teams are still level, they will enter a sudden-death shootout.

The APSL will keep its scoring system: six points for a win in regulation or extra-time and one point for each goal scored in regulation up to a maximum of three.

A shootout winner gets three points; the loser earns two.

# CHINA TIPPED TO STAGE 2002 CUP

CHINA will be a frontrunner to stage Asia's first World Cup if Beijing does not get the 2000 Olympics, FIFA secretary general Sepp Blatter said in Barcelona two weeks ago.

Soccer's world governing body has virtually promised that Asia will get the World Cup in the Year 2002 and Japan has always been considered favourite.

But leading sports officials have admitted that the increasingly tight contest for the 2000 Olympics between Beijing, Manchester and Sydney could mean some offset deal being struck.

Blatter said: "Beijing will fight like hell to get the 2002 World Cup if it does not get the Olympics" in a further hint of the battle to come.

He said Malaysia could also be a contender.

His statement is likely to set alarm bells sounding in Japan where planning for the World Cup is already well underway even though no final decision is expected before 1996.

Japanese companies are prepared to commit tens of millions of

dollars toward building the necessary facilities for a World Cup.

But Blatter expressed doubts about the likelihood of professional football taking off in Japan as much as FIFA hopes it will in the United States which will stage the World Cup in 1994.

"There are not the grassroots in Japan like there is in the US," he said.

"This is something that will have to be built up because it is not as strong as the United States where there are millions of young people who play or at least enjoy football."

The start of Japan's first professional league, which was to feature international stars such as former England captain Gary Lineker, has just been put back to next March.

Officially, this is because Japan is still involved in the qualifying tournament for the 1994 World Cup.



FIFA big-shot SEPP BLATTER



Austrian ace Andreas Herzog: he's now playing in the Bundesliga.





# LATEST OVERSEAS RESULTS



## FRANCE

|             |   |            |   |
|-------------|---|------------|---|
| Lens        | 0 | Le Havre   | 0 |
| Monaco      | 3 | Nimes      | 1 |
| Bordeaux    | 1 | Tou on     | 1 |
| Marseille   | 3 | Metz       | 2 |
| St Etienne  | 3 | Tou ouse   | 2 |
| Sochaux     | 1 | Lyon       | 0 |
| Strasbourg  | 0 | St Germain | 4 |
| Montpellier | 3 | Lille      | 0 |
| Caen        | 3 | Valen'nes  | 0 |

## STANDINGS

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| P St Germain | 6 |
| Montpellier  | 6 |
| Nantes       | 5 |
| Marseille    | 5 |
| Auxerre      | 4 |
| Monaco       | 4 |
| Bordeaux     | 4 |
| Strasbourg   | 4 |
| Sochaux      | 4 |

## GERMANY

|               |   |             |   |
|---------------|---|-------------|---|
| S'bruecken    | 2 | Karlsruhe   | 0 |
| VfB Stuttgart | 3 | Nuremberg   | 0 |
| B M'bach      | 1 | Bochum      | 1 |
| Borussia D    | 0 | Schalke     | 2 |
| B Munich      | 1 | K'slautern  | 0 |
| Cologne       | 0 | E Frankfurt | 1 |
| W Bremen      | 1 | B L'kusen   | 1 |

## STANDINGS

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Bayern Munich | 4 |
| VfB Stuttgart | 3 |
| Saarbruecken  | 3 |
| Walterscheid  | 3 |
| E Frankfurt   | 3 |

## SWITZERLAND

|           |   |            |   |
|-----------|---|------------|---|
| St Gallen | 1 | G'hopper   | 1 |
| Lausanne  | 1 | Lugano     | 1 |
| Servette  | 3 | Aarau      | 0 |
| Sion      | 3 | Young Boys | 3 |
| Chiasso   | 0 | Bulle      | 0 |
| FC Zurich | 0 | N Xamax    | 0 |

## STANDINGS

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Servette   | 12 |
| Lugano     | 10 |
| Aarau      | 10 |
| Sion       | 10 |
| Chiasso    | 9  |
| Lausanne   | 8  |
| Young Boys | 8  |

## NORTHERN IRELAND

### ULSTER CUP

|            |   |            |   |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| Ballyclare | 1 | Crusaders  | 5 |
| Ballymena  | 0 | Ards       | 6 |
| Bangor     | 1 | Carrick    | 0 |
| Cl'ville   | 0 | Glenavon   | 2 |
| Larne      | 1 | Coleraine  | 1 |
| Linfield   | 2 | Newry      | 1 |
| Omagh Town | 3 | Glentoran  | 2 |
| Portadown  | 3 | D.stillery | 0 |

## WYC QUALIFIES

Brazil has booked its place in the final round of the South American under-20 championship with a 2-0 win over Ecuador.

Results: Group B: Brazil

2 Ecuador 0 (halftime 1-0)  
Scorers: Guiliano Tadeu Aranda (4th minute), Adriano Gerlim da Silva (89th).

Paraguay 2 Bolivia 0 (1-0)

Scorers: Rene Fleitas (32nd), Francisco Esteche (66th).

## STANDINGS

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Brazil   | 4 |
| Paraguay | 3 |
| Ecuador  | 1 |
| Bolivia  | 0 |

The top two teams go into the final round.

The top three teams in the tournament, which ends on August 30, qualify for the under-20 world championship finals in Australia in March 1993.

## ENGLAND

LIVERPOOL 0 ARSENAL 2 (halftime 0-0)

Scorers: Anders Limpar (53rd minute), Ian Wright (80th)

Attendance: 34,961

Anders Limpar and Ian Wright scored second-half goals to give battling Arsenal a 2-0 win at Liverpool and its first point in the English Premier

## League.

Arsenal manager George Graham had demanded more physical aggression from his pre-season title favourite team after dismal defeats in its opening two games and received it in full measure.

Arsenal's vigour earned it four bookings, with Lee Dixon, Denmark's John Jensen, Ray Parlour and Tony Adams all shown the yellow card for fouls. The Londoners also had Swedish goal hero Limpar led away in the 62nd minute with an eye injury.

Arsenal's commitment was to much for Liverpool and in the end Graham's team should have won far more comfortably than by the two goals Parlour set up for Limpar and Wright in the 53rd and 80th minutes.

Limpar struck at the far post when Parlour, who gave away a penalty on his league debut at Anfield last February, sent a cross from the right beyond the dive of goalkeeper David James for the Swede to strike home.

Ten minutes from time Parlour unhinged Liverpool's off-side trap to send Wright, last season's top league goalscorer, sprinting clear to force his shot over James.

Arsenal might have scored more but for superb saves by James and its own wasteful finishing.

James made splendid saves

from Parlour, Wright, David Hillier and substitute Paul Merson, while his opposite number David Seaman enjoyed a quiet afternoon against an impotent Liverpool attack badly missing the injured Ian Rush and Paul Stewart.

Both clubs are in the bottom half of the table with one win and two defeats apiece.

## BELGIUM

|            |   |              |   |
|------------|---|--------------|---|
| Boom       | 1 | Club Bruges2 |   |
| C Bruges   | 2 | Antwerp      | 3 |
| Waregem    | 4 | Beveren      | 1 |
| Ekeren     | 5 | Lommel       | 1 |
| S Liege    | 2 | Charleroi    | 0 |
| Anderlecht | 1 | Mechelen     | 0 |
| Genk       | 2 | FC Liege     | 0 |
| Lierse     | 0 | Molenbeek    | 0 |
| Ghent      | 2 | Lokeren      | 0 |

## STANDINGS

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Anderlecht     | 8 |
| Mechelen       | 6 |
| Club Bruges    | 6 |
| Charleroi      | 6 |
| Standard Liege | 6 |
| Beveren        | 6 |
| Ghent          | 5 |

## TURKEY

|           |   |             |   |
|-----------|---|-------------|---|
| Besiktas  | 1 | Karsiyaka   | 1 |
| G'birligi | 0 | Galatasaray | 3 |
| K'ispor   | 7 | K'senispor  | 2 |
| Altay     | 1 | Ankaragucu  | 0 |
| T'zonspor | 4 | Saryer      | 0 |
| Bursaspor | 4 | G'tepspor   | 0 |

|          |   |           |   |
|----------|---|-----------|---|
| L Poznan | 1 | S Bytom   | 0 |
| GKS Kat  | 2 | Bydgoszcz | 1 |

## HOLLAND

|             |   |           |   |
|-------------|---|-----------|---|
| F Rotterdam | 4 | F Sittard | 1 |
| Ajax A'dam  | 3 | Go Ahead  | 1 |
| Roda JC     | 1 | Volendam  | 0 |
| V Arnhem    | 0 | Groningen | 0 |

## STANDINGS

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Feyenoord R'dam | 4 |
| Ajax Amsterdam  | 4 |
| FC Utrecht      | 3 |
| BVV Den Bosch   | 3 |
| PSV Eindhoven   | 2 |

## PORTUGAL

|             |   |            |   |
|-------------|---|------------|---|
| G'maraes    | 2 | Beira Mar  | 1 |
| Chaves      | 1 | Martimo    | 2 |
| Espinho     | 1 | Famalicao  | 0 |
| Gil Vicente | 0 | Braga      | 1 |
| Sporting    | 0 | Tirsense   | 0 |
| Farense     | 2 | Salgueiros | 0 |
| Boavista    | 1 | Belenenses | 0 |

## POLLAND

|            |   |             |   |
|------------|---|-------------|---|
| H Krakow   | 2 | LKS Lodz    | 3 |
| S Wroclaw  | 3 | P Szczecin  | 1 |
| R Chorzow  | 3 | Tarnobrzeg  | 1 |
| S Mielec   | 4 | J Bialystok | 1 |
| W Lodz     | 2 | W Krakow    | 0 |
| L Warszawa | 2 | Z Lubin     | 1 |
| G Zabrze   | 4 | O Poznan    | 0 |

## STANDINGS

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Lech Poznan | 8 |
| Widzew Lodz | 7 |

# SOUTH AMERICA

with  
MARIO ETCHART

# OLIMPIA IS 90 YEARS OLD

## CONMEBOL CUP

### PENAROL TO THE SECOND ROUND

Penarol of Uruguay, despite playing without most of its best players, qualified for the second round of the South American Conmebol Cup after defeating compatriots Danubio 8-7 in a penalty shoot-out.

The match held at Montevideo's Centenario Stadium, only attracted 4,000 fans.

The 90 minutes ended in a 1-1 draw, with goals from Victor Lopez in the 27th minute for Penarol and Gustavo Espana for Danubio in the 42nd.

In the penalty shoot-out, Pedrucci, Blanco, Recoba, Castro, Rosa, Edgardo Martinez and Andres Martinez scored for Penarol while Biaggio, Gonez, Pereira, Alzueta, Bitancort and Olivera netted for Danubio.

"A club for the practice of football", can be read in the foundation act of the oldest of Paraguayan clubs.

Olimpia owe their foundation to Dutchman William Paats, who brought soccer to Paraguay in 1901.

Paats was a Physical Training instructor, a school teacher and a pioneer of sporting practices.



In 1902, Praats and several of his pupils organised the Olimpia club.

Olimpia, the oldest Paraguayan club, was founder member of the First Division in 1906 and finished runner-up to Guarani in the opening championship.

They had to wait six years,

until 1912, to win their first title.

Since then they have outstripped the field winning the Paraguayan league 32 times.

They put together hat-tricks from 1927-29 and 1939-41, won the title five times in a row from 1956 to 1961 and then topped even that with six between 1978 and 1983.

It was during this latter era that Olimpia made their name famous internationally.

Their springboard was the Copa Libertadores in which they were runners-up to Penarol of Uruguay in the very first tournament, in 1960.

Olimpia have been a very regular entrant ever since, but without achieving much note until 1979.

Then they beat neighbours Sol de America and Bolivian clubs Bolivar and Jorge Wilsterman for a place in the semifinals.

Here they topped a group including Guarani of Brazil and Palestino of Chile.

They faced defending champions Boca Juniors of Argentina in the final.

In Asuncion, Olimpia won 2-0 and in the return in Buenos Aires

a goal-less draw took Olimpia on to the World Club final where they defeated European Champions Cup runners-up Malmo of Sweden.

Since then their record has been: The Inter American Cup in 1980, another Copa Libertadores in 1990, the Super Cup and the South American Super Cup also

in 1990.

Aurelio Gonzalez, Juan Angel Romero, Juan Vicente Lezcano, Ever Almeida, the Kiese brothers, Hugo Talavera, Osvaldo Piazza, Vicente Amarilla, Luis Monzon and Enrique Villalba are among the great Paraguayan stars who played for Olimpia along its 90 years of history.

## CHILEAN SQUAD

Arturo Salah, who's again at the helm of the Chilean national team, named the 22 players who will represent the country in their next international commitments.

The squad is:  
Goalkeepers: Patricio Toledo and Marcelo Ramirez.

Defenders: Lizardo Garrido, Miguel Ramirez; Javier Margas, Daniel Lopez, Ronald Fuentes, Agustin Salvatierra, Cristian Romero and Fabian Guevara.

Midfielders: Jorge Contreras, Jaime Pizarro,

Jaime Vera, Lerez, Marcelo Vega, Gabriel Mendoza, Eduardo Vilchez and Rodrigo Gomez.

Strikers: Anibal Gonzalez, Juan Castillo, Pedro Gonzalez and Real Madrid's new star, Ivan Zamorano.

The possible squad is: goalkeeper - Toledo; sweeper Garrido; stoppers Miguel Ramirez and Javier Margas; midfielders Gabriel Mendoza, Jorge Contreras, Jaime Vera, Jaime Pizarro and Eduardo Vilchez; and strikers Anibal Gonzalez and Ivan Zamorano.

WHO is the top Peruvian footballer of all times? This is the question posed by the fans of Peru.

And it's a question that's been finally answered by an interesting poll carried out by the influential Peruvian newspaper "Ex-presso".

The solution came after well known personalities such as sportsmen, journalists, referees, political leaders, artists, students, musicians and members of the private sector, were consulted, on the subject.

The winner was none other than the great Teofilo Cubillas.

Cubillas was first with 15 votes, followed by another great, Hugo Sotil with 11, Teodoro Fernandez with 10, and Hector Chumpitaz and Perico Leon with nine each.

Cubillas was the overwhelming winner and the favourite of all football lovers in Peru.



# ABSW

# British Roundup



EDITED BY TOM ANDERSON

WE'VE GOT  
THE BIG  
STORIES



# RUSH OF



IAN RUSH IN ACTION

**SOCCKER'S lawmakers have given Ian Rush a licence to unleash a new wave of terror among Premier Division defences this season.**

That's the verdict of former Liverpool star Barry Venison, following the introduction of the controversial back-pass rule.

This season, goalkeepers are not allowed to handle a ball kicked back to them by a team-mate. If they do, they concede an indirect free kick.

And Venison, Newcastle's £250,000 signing from Liverpool, reckons his old Anfield team-mate is ready to bleed soccer's elite defences dry as a result.

"Rushy is the best in the business at putting defenders under pressure," says Venison, who spent six years at Anfield.

"Nobody closes down a defender as quickly as he does.

"He'll now be able to do the same to keepers. This new rule will benefit him more than anyone and that can only help Liverpool."

The first keeper to face the Rush threat in the new Premier League was Nottingham Forest's Mark Crossley in the live Sky Sports TV game at the City Ground last Sunday week.

And Venison says: "Rushy is happy and settled after sorting out his new contract.

"He's going to be a key man at Liverpool this season, just like Ronnie Whelan in midfield. They represent the old guard at Anfield.

"And Rushy's looking sharp and really fired up. I know from pre-season training at Liverpool and from watching the Charity Shield on television.

## ALIVE

"But he's at his best when it really matters.

"He's not one to go haring all over the place in training. He's a Saturday afternoon man.

"That's when he comes alive. And that's when he works like mad. Everyone knows about his great scoring record, but it's never stressed enough how he

works to prevent defenders settling on the ball

"I know when I was at Sunderland playing against Liverpool, I didn't want the ball knocked square to me at right back by a central defender, because Rushy would be on you like a flash."

And Venison believes Rush - two months away from his 31st birthday - is now better than ever.

**"Everyone thinks he had a bad year in Italy when he went to Juventus, but he's feeling the benefit of that now," says Venison.**

"It helped him in one respect - he learned how to prepare properly for a game and how to look after himself.

"The Italians are obsessed with fitness and diet and Rushy is a very fit lad.

"He's going to keep goalkeepers on their toes this season and be a bigger threat than ever."

Venison reckons Liverpool will be a serious threat again, too - in the championship race.

**'He is the best in the business at putting defenders under pressure'**

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Wembley heartache ends in sentimental journey

# SOUNESS DID ME A FAVOUR



GRAEME SOUNESS

**GRAEME SOUNESS** left Barry Venison "shattered" when he dropped him for the FA Cup Final.

But the tough Kop boss made up for it - by fixing Venison's dream move back to the North-East.

Fullback Venison, who celebrated his 28th birthday two weeks ago, was devastated when the Wembley axe fell in May. Newcastle's experience £1/4m signing revealed: "The Cup Final's always a big occasion, but for me, it was going to be extra special.

"We were playing my former club Sunderland, whom I'd skippered at Wembley in the 1985 Milk Cup final, and my family - all Sunderland supporters - were there.

"It never crossed my mind I wouldn't be involved as a sub, at least

"I'd allowed myself to believe I'd be in the 13. I went along with interviews about playing against my old club.

## BLACK

"I was wrong to do that. You never take it for granted at Liverpool that you are going to be involved in a match.

"My two Anfield black spots were the time I was out injured and being ignored for the Cup Final. I had to get away and get my head sorted out.

"Graeme told me he picked what he believed was the right squad to win

that match."

Now Venison couldn't be happier. He admits: "Souness did me a favour letting me go for £250,000. He could have held out for more, because when Everton wanted to sign me earlier, the fee was £425,000.

"I think his relationship with Newcastle's assistant manager Terry McDermott helped.

"I walked out of Liverpool on good terms. I'm proud I contributed to a successful period in the club's history

"Now, I'm excited about being at another big club.

"As a Sunderland fan, my dad was sceptical about my joining Newcastle. But the fans gave me an embarrassingly good welcome."



# Australia's best coverage of the British soccer scene

## BLOOD!

Oh law -  
Ian's going  
to terrorise  
you, Mark

Says ex-Anfield ace  
**BARRY VENISON**

"That's the one they want," he says.

"It's always the standard by which Liverpool expect to be judged.

"The club never changes. Ideas on the team do. Graeme Souness has proved that with his thinking and change of personnel.

"But then, Kenny Dalglish

before him changed the team a lot, too. "We rarely seemed to keep an unchanged side.

"**Liverpool weren't the force they were last season but still won the FA Cup.**

### MEDALS

"By their standards, it was

a shaky season in the League. But Souness could argue it was a transitional period and they were also hampered by injuries.

"Any club would miss John Barnes. He's a one-off talent.

"I'm certain Liverpool have as good a chance as anyone of winning the title

this season.

"You've just got to look at the squad to see the talent there."

And the defender, who won two championship medals during his stay at Anfield, stresses that one of the greatest talents is in the mood to fire Liverpool to the top again.



KEN DALGLISH



NEWCASTLE MANAGEMENT TERRY McDERMOTT AND KEVIN KEEGAN

### Cup of cheer for England

## PLATT'S THE WAY TO GO FOR TAYLOR

ENGLAND can open their World Cup campaign at home to Norway in October with genuine hope of improvement.

If only for the dispiriting reason that, as one of football's major nations, they can't get any worse.

■ At the risk of clouding the dawn of this new season, England surpassed a level of cluelessness earlier last June rarely seen in the international game.

Unless it is quickly addressed by manager Graham Taylor, England WON'T qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States.

Especially when the Premier League, enriched by TV's millions but blinded to their playing values by their own marketing hype, is founded on a bedrock of mediocrity.



DAVID PLATT

### GLITTERING

England's best players have no natural heirs when they are injured or, worse, not selected.

They should start by choosing a captain who plays his football in Italy, the world's most glittering showcase of the game.

■ He's David Platt, an intelligent player of early maturity and courage and a person of ambassadorial qualities.

Though playing outside English football, he would represent it more fully, than Forest defender Stuart Pearce, whom manager Taylor is grooming for the job.

Pearce would be a contender as left-back for any World XI, but he is at his most articulate with a snarl and clenched fist.

Who wants England's torch carried into a bright new future by a man known as Psycho?

Platt's most important and difficult job will be to assist Paul Gascoigne's re-entry into the England team.

Gazza is irreplaceable in midfield.

It may be too much to expect him to unveil the full range of his talent this season.

■ The twin demands of returning from long injury and establishing himself with Lazio in Rome with surely take a heavy toll. But Gazza's wit and inventiveness, even in curtailed form, must be promoted still on centre stage.

### CONFUSION

Manager Taylor will have to concede that he was wrong about Wright, Ian, that is.

And he'll need to forgive the other Wright - Mark - for plunging his European Championship campaign into such embarrassing confusion at the outset.

Taylor isn't the first manager to find Mark a quirky, somewhat ornery character. So did Bobby Robson - but he made the Liverpool man a cornerstone of his 1990 World Cup campaign.

Taylor may find Ian too unpredictable, but Premier League defenders are already forecasting he'll be their most dangerous and effective opponent all season.

■ England's manager may have to dispel the suspicion that he is comfortable only with players who make regular visits to their barbers and listen attentively to everything he says.

He must trust his players of genuine quality to the end. Wherever it takes him.

### SPIRIT

Chris Waddle should be invited back from his new base at Sheffield Wednesday. He has the skill, so age should not matter.

Rob Jones will be given a chance to grow into the England place of which only injury deprived him in Sweden. Gary Pallister is another who can play a more significant part England's future.

■ Many pointed to Carlton Palmer's technical shortcomings at Euro-92. A place can still be found for his enthusiasm and indomitable spirit.

Above all, English football must avoid suffocation by the fear of defeat. The Scots came home from Sweden beaten, but cheered by their fans. There was only one thing more depressing than England's failure, and that was the grim manner of it.

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# A norm, an ideal and a responsibility

At its 46th Congress in Zurich on July 1 and 2, 1989, FIFA launched a fair play campaign intended to penetrate all four corners of the globe.

The symbol and identifying colour of the campaign is the "yellow card". "Fair play please" is the slick and straightforward message being spread around the world. But is a fair play campaign depending on concerted action and the symbolic effect of one colour more than just an exercise which neglects rather than promotes certain qualities? Is fair play nowadays a misplaced ideal without a future?

In the light of a series of negative headlines connected with football, many authorities - and FIFA included - have been pondering these points during the past few months. But knowing how diverse and contradictory the problems behind the fair play programme are, the reply from the persons responsible at FIFA is: now or never. "Whatever happens, we must eliminate the negative aspects of our sport," commented Joseph S. Blatter in the Editorial of the 10/89 edition of the FIFA News.

One of FIFA's foremost aims is to popularise football as a whole all over the world. Fairness is an integral part of this whole,

as FIFA President Joao Havelange pointed out when he stated, "Fair play and football are inseparable. Only football played in the spirit of fair play is good football." With these words, FIFA has made it clear that it will stand firmly behind the fair play motto and commit itself to the inherent responsibilities. FIFA is therefore familiar with the problems involved and there is no lack of goodwill. But what about the viability of the methods adopted to focus attention on the principle of fair play? A brief explanation of the ideas that led to the fair play project and the steps being taken to deal with the complex issues involved are given below.

## FAIR PLAY - A NORM AND IDEAL

If a hundred people were asked for their definition of fair play, there would probably be a hundred different answers and each one of them would touch the nerve of as many different viewpoints. To be able to appreciate the complexities behind the expression, the following distinctions are helpful. Firstly, fair play is a norm, that is, a question of observing the rules of the competition. Any



NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER AND PRESIDENT OF COSTA RICA OSCAR ARIAS WITH THE FIFA FAIR PLAY CARDS

breach of the laws or competition regulations of any type of sport constitutes a breach of fair play and is relatively easy to pinpoint.

Secondly, fair play is an ideal. As a basic ethic attitude, it involves primarily showing respect for one's counterpart as an equal and a human being. In sport it is mainly a matter of fostering equal opportunity. As with other idea values, the borderline between fair and unfair has no norms, in other words, it is not possible to set up general norms. In this connection, the Laws of the Game for football, for instance, constitute only a foundation on which to build.

## COMPLEXITY OF THE UNDERLYING REASONS

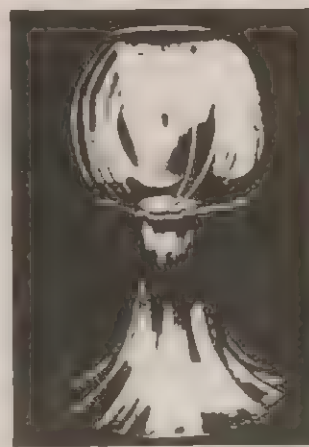
The reasons for the rise in hostility within and around football have recently been the subject of much discussion and analysis. To simplify matters, they can be subdivided into two groups. On the one hand, there are problematic developments in society as a whole and, on the other, negative trends detectable in sectors directly concerned with football.

The first group is linked with the ever-increasing pressures to win and with current trends in consumer habits in modern society. Success at any price is the motto by which toughness and lack of respect are turning into the means to justify the end. What is more, there is a

perceptible trend in all parts of the globe to concentrate on individualism, which in time inevitably leads to a depletion in social contact. The theory is that current common values are either changing or losing their meaning. Modern lifestyles are therefore marked by a rapid change in values. The results of this are a lack of guiding principles and ideals, with people resorting to aggression and violence to resolve personal or social conflicts.

The negative tendencies surrounding football can be summarised in the words "commercialisation and professionalism". The urge for profit and, consequently, the urge for better results and more success almost inevitably leads to a diminution in the meaning of fair play. The ever-growing preoccupation of the mass media with football and their methods of reporting have a provocative effect on football. Rather than concentrating on the sporting elements of football they choose to alight on sensationalism and melodrama.

Another factor often cited in the discussions about the issue of fair play in football is the rôle of the stadia as a battle-ground for so-called subcultures of various youth groups. These social groups whose rites and "manners" are often based on violence misuses the stadia as a platform for enacting their "causes", such as proving themselves to the world and parading their power. Many social issues totally unconnected with sport are detectable in such groups.



## WHAT IS THE FAIR PLAY CAMPAIGN AIMING AT?

The last two paragraphs illustrate the multiplicity of problems behind the discussions on fair play. Where can FIFA's fair play activities possibly begin? The surest reply to this is that connected with fair play as a norm. FIFA has always committed itself firmly to ensuring that the Laws of the Game are observed. No infringements of any kind are tolerated either from players or from Associations. In view of the fact that the quality and personality of the referee is and always has been the most effective tool to combat unfairness on the football pitch, one of the most important pillars in the organisation is the programme of advanced training for FIFA referees.

Attempting to extend the principle of fair play from the norm to the ideal, namely to

becoming the basis on which every sporting and civilian activity is based, is a much heavier undertaking. A principle which, like an ethical attitude, is so hard to promote should, according to FIFA, at least be communicated in a simple, comprehensible way. It is for this reason that the "yellow card" from the Laws of the Game was chosen as the symbol of the campaign. There is not one footballer who does not know its meaning. It is a caution, intended as a reminder to keep within the limits of tolerance, and urges the other party to modify his behaviour. By using yellow posters, stickers, badges and T-shirts and the simple slogan "fair play please", the aim is to issue gentle reminders for use in sporting sectors and beyond.

It would be unrealistic to assume that the many complex problems inherent in the development of society as a whole or that certain distasteful tendencies in football can be solved directly or eliminated through such a campaign. Still, FIFA considers the "yellow card" together with the worldwide popularity and significance of football as an opportunity to publicise an ideal without mincing words. But FIFA needs the support and solidarity of every member of the FIFA family. The fact that the fair play campaign has so far reverberated positively in countless football circles, with many Associations adopting and elaborating on the initiative, only reaffirms FIFA's conviction that it has chosen a simple - and effective - method.



DUTCH STAR RUUD GULLIT WITH HIS FAIR PLAY SHIRT



# NEWS FROM THE UK

## WYC squad

**SHEFFIELD** Wednesday startlet Chris Bart-Williams was named in the England Under 20 squad for the training camp from which the final squad for the World Youth Championship will be picked.

Also in the squad, which will meet up for three days at Lilleshall on September 6, are Newcastle's Steven Watson and Alan Thompson, Manchester City's Adrian Mike, Jamie Pollock of Middlesbrough and Andy Myers of Chelsea.

The finals take place here in Australia next March.

**FULL SQUAD:** Aoup (Brentford), Barmby (Tottenham), Bart-Williams (Sheff Wed), Berry (A Villa), Butt (Man Utd), Campbell (Tottenham), Caskey (Tottenham), Egghill (Man C),



GRAHAM TAYLOR

Harriott (Oldham), Howe (Nott'm Forest), Hughes (Crewe), Johnson (Norwich), Lee (Arsenal), Mahorn (Tottenham), Marlowe (Tottenham), Mike (Man C), Minton (Tottenham), Myers (Chelsea), Pearce (Chelsea),

Pollock (Middlesbrough), Read (Arsenal), Sheppard (Watford), Thompson (Newcastle), Tinkler (Leeds), Unsworth (Everton), Warner (Nott'm Forest), D Watson (Barnsley), S Watson (Newcastle).

## Napoli says no!

**NAPOLI** will reject an offer from Spanish club Sevilla to sign Diego Maradona, a spokesman for the Italian team said last week.

"We are not interested in any moves from Sevilla," club spokesman Luigi Amati said.

"The rules concerning transfer negotiations must be respected."

Napoli is unhappy not to have been consulted on negotiations between Sevilla and the former Argentine captain's representatives.

Maradona, 31, who recently completed a 15-month worldwide ban imposed by FIFA after he tested positive for cocaine, is under contract with Napoli until June 30, 1993.

But he has given the club a string of conditions for his return that Napoli has rejected.

Maradona, currently in Buenos Aires, has ruled out a return to Italy on Napoli's terms.

A move to Sevilla would allow him to link up with coach Carlos Bilardo, who took Argentina to World Cup victory in Mexico in 1986 with Maradona as captain.

Sevilla gave no details of its offer, reported to comprise a salary of \$A4.15 million for the first year, rising to more than \$A7 million for a second, and a \$A20.7 million transfer fee.



DIEGO MARADONA

## ALL THE RESULTS FROM BRITAIN

### ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

|                  |   |                 |   |
|------------------|---|-----------------|---|
| Aston Villa      | 1 | Southampton     | 1 |
| Blackburn        | 1 | Manchester C.0  |   |
| Manchester Utd   | 1 | Ipswich         | 1 |
| Middlesbrough    | 4 | Leeds           | 1 |
| Norwich          | 1 | Everton         | 1 |
| Oldham           | 5 | Nottingham F.3  |   |
| Queens's Park R. | 3 | Sheffield Utd.2 |   |
| Sheffield Wed.   | 3 | Chelsea         | 3 |
| Tottenham        | 2 | Crystal Palace2 |   |
| Wimbledon        | 1 | Coventry        | 2 |

### ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

|                |   |              |   |
|----------------|---|--------------|---|
| Bristol Rovers | 2 | Brentford    | 1 |
| Cambridge      | 0 | Birmingham   | 3 |
| Derby          | 1 | Newcastle    | 2 |
| Grimsby        | 3 | Watford      | 2 |
| Luton          | 0 | Bristol C.   | 3 |
| Millwall       | 3 | Oxford       | 1 |
| Notts County   | 1 | Leicester    | 1 |
| Portsmouth     | 1 | Barnsley     | 0 |
| Southend       | 0 | Peterborough | 1 |
| Sunderland     | 1 | Tranmere     | 0 |
| West Ham       | 0 | Charlton     | 1 |
| W'hampton      | 2 | Swindon      | 2 |

### ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

|             |   |               |   |
|-------------|---|---------------|---|
| Blackpool   | 2 | Exeter        | 0 |
| Bournemouth | 2 | Port Vale     | 1 |
| Brighton    | 2 | Bolton        | 1 |
| Fulham      | 2 | Preston       | 1 |
| H'field     | 0 | W Bromwich    | 1 |
| Hull        | 1 | Chester       | 1 |
| Plymouth    | 3 | Bradford      | 0 |
| Reading     | 1 | Leyton Orient | 1 |
| Rotherham   | 0 | Hartlepool    | 0 |
| Stockport   | 2 | Burnley       | 1 |
| Stoke       | 2 | Wigan         | 1 |
| Swansea     | 4 | Mansfield     | 0 |

### ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

|             |   |            |   |
|-------------|---|------------|---|
| Bury        | 1 | Gillingham | 0 |
| Halifax     | 0 | Scunthorpe | 0 |
| Lincoln     | 0 | York       | 1 |
| Scarborough | 1 | Crewe      | 0 |
| Shrewsbury  | 2 | Doncaster  | 1 |
| Walsall     | 2 | Cardiff    | 3 |
| Wrexham     | 3 | Rochdale   | 1 |
| Barnet      | 3 | Colchester | 1 |
| Darlington  | 0 | Hereford   | 1 |

### SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

|             |   |              |   |
|-------------|---|--------------|---|
| Aberdeen    | 2 | Dundee       | 1 |
| Airdrie     | 2 | Falkirk      | 0 |
| Dundee Utd. | 2 | St Johnstone | 1 |
| Hibernian   | 0 | Hearts       | 0 |
| Partick     | 2 | Motherwell   | 2 |
| Rangers     | 1 | Celtic       | 1 |

### SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

|           |   |            |   |
|-----------|---|------------|---|
| Ayr       | 2 | Kilmarnock | 0 |
| Clydebank | 0 | Dumbarton  | 1 |

|             |   |            |   |
|-------------|---|------------|---|
| Cowdenbeath | 1 | Meadowbank | 5 |
| Dunfermline | 0 | Raith      | 1 |
| Morton      | 0 | St Mirren  | 1 |
| Stirling    | 0 | Hamilton   | 2 |

### SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

|                   |   |             |   |
|-------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Aloa              | 2 | S'housemuir | 1 |
| Arbroath          | 4 | E Stirling  | 5 |
| Brechin           | 5 | Berwick     | 1 |
| Clyde             | 2 | East Fife   | 2 |
| Montrose          | 0 | Stranraer   | 2 |
| Queen of the Sth. | 0 | Albion      | 3 |
| Queen's Park      | 1 | Forfar      | 2 |

## ALL YOUR TABLES FROM ENGLAND

### ENGLISH PREMIER DIVISION

| Team                 | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|----------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Coventry             | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Norwich              | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Queen's Park Rangers | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Blackburn            | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Middlesbrough        | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Everton              | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Oldham               | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Sheffield Wednesday  | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Ipswich              | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Leeds                | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Crystal Palace       | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Aston Villa          | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Liverpool            | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Sheffield United     | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Nottingham Forest    | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Chelsea              | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Southampton          | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Tottenham            | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Manchester City      | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Manchester United    | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Wimbledon            | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |
| Arsenal              | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10  |

### ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

| Team             | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Charlton         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Wolverhampton    | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Swindon          | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Newcastle        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Birmingham       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Peterborough     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Bristol City     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Portsmouth       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Leicester        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Bristol Rovers   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Watford          | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Millwall         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Grimsby          | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Oxford United    | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Tranmere         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Sunderland       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| West Ham         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Notts County     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Southend         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Derby            | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Brentford        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Luton            | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Barnsley         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Cambridge United | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |

### ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

| Team          | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|---------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| West Bromwich | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Stockport     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Leyton Orient | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Plymouth      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Bournemouth   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Rotherham     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Hull          | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Fulham        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Swansea       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Bolton        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Blackpool     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Bradford      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Stoke         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Burnley       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Reading       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Hartlepool    | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Preston       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Chester       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Port Vale     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Wigan         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Huddersfield  | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Exeter        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |

### ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

| Team         | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Barnet       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Bury         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| York         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Cardiff      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Halifax      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Hereford     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Scarborough  | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Walsall      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Crewe        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Wrexham      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Northampton  | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Colchester   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Shrewsbury   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Scunthorpe   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Darlington   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Carlisle     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Doncaster    | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Rochdale     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Gillingham   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Torquay      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Chesterfield | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Lincoln      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |

## ...AND HOW THEY STAND IN SCOTLAND

### SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

| Team          | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|---------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Aberdeen      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Celtic        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Dundee United | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Hearts        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Rangers       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| St Johnstone  | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Dundee        | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Motherwell    | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Partick       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Hibernian     | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Falkirk       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Airdrieonians | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |

### SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

| Team        | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|-------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Raith       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Dunfermline | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Morton      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Meadowbank  | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| St Mirren   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Hamilton    | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Kilmarnock  | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Ayr         | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Dumbarton   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Clydebank   | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Cowdenbeath | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |

### SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

| Team               | P  | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Brechin            | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Forfar             | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Clyde              | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Albion             | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| East Fife          | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Stranraer          | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Aloa               | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Arbroath           | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| East Stirling      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Montrose           | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Berwick            | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Queen's Park       | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Stenhousemuir      | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |
| Queen of the South | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 14 | 10  |





# DUR-RANT AND RAVE

RANGERS 1  
CELTIC 1

**BORN-AGAIN** Ian Durrant scored a stunning goal to rescue Rangers in a magnificent Old Firm thriller at Ibrox.

The gifted midfielder struck just eight minutes after coming on as a sub, blasting home an explosive shot from 15 yards.

Even Celtic boss Liam Brady admitted after the 1-1 draw: "It was a special strike."

And Ibrox boss Walter Smith was delighted at seeing the player who has recovered from a horrific knee injury grab the glory.

"It was a good finish," said Smith. "People maybe expect a bit too much when a player has been out as long as he has."

"But in the last week he's begun to get some of his old sharpness back."

"I hope now he's got over pre-season training, he'll be as fit as he's been for a few years."

But while Smith was relieved to see his side pull level after Gerry Creaney's opener, he faces major problems before Wednesday's Skol Cup tie against Dundee United.

Mark Hateley limped out of last weekend's clash with a thigh strain and is rated doubtful.

Smith admitted: "Mark hurt his

## Ian's glory goal saves Rangers as Hateley hobbles

thigh during the first half and the long run at goal he had during the second-half just about finished him off.

Smith added: "I felt we were a bit unfortunate not to get both points."

"We created more chances, but it was a particularly tight game."

"Both teams should take a lot of credit from the way they went about the game, and I thought the spirit in which the match was played was excellent."

### CREDIT

Celtic's Liam Brady - still undefeated at Ibrox as Parkhead boss - beamed: "It was a great game and both sets of players were a credit."

"Our goal was a bit lucky, but Creaney finished it well."

"We came here to win and overall we played some great football."

Brady lavished special praise on stand-out Celtic central defenders Tony Mowbray and Mike Galloway.

He added: "I thought Galloway

was marvellous considering he had an arthroscope in his knee on Monday."

"Mowbray played with ten stitches in a head cut and was outstanding."

Creaney looked like being the hammer of the champions when he grabbed his second consecutive goal at Ibrox - again in front of the traditional Celtic end!

"They make plenty of noise at that end - especially if you score in front of them!" he beamed.

"Coming here and winning towards the end of last season has definitely altered our approach in coming to Ibrox. We're much more confident now."

"It's not funny coming across the city and losing 5-1 and 4-1."

Creaney side-stepped questions about his international chances after six goals in seven games for Celtic.

He said: "If it happens, it happens. If it doesn't, I'm only 22 and my career will go on."

PAUL McSTAY  
(Celtic)



The general of Parkhead

DUNDEE U 2  
ST JOHNSTONE 1

**UNITED'S** Duncan Ferguson and Saints' Allan Moore saw red as tempers boiled over in the second-half of this Tayside clash.

The Tannadice men had a comfortable two-goal lead when they lost their striker after an off-the-ball clash with John Inglis.

But Saints hopes of fighting back vanished when they were reduced to 10 men - Moore red carded after a second booking.

United kids Paddy Connolly and John O'Neil were their match winners.

And boss Jim McLean summed up his team's display: "Our was a performance of contrast - in parts we were brilliant but at times poor."

Alex Totten felt his side should have scraped a point: "I thought we deserved some reward for second-half efforts which saw us strike the woodwork twice and have a scoring attempt cleared off the goal line."

Keepers Alan Main and Andy Rhodes looked almost unbeatable early on.

But even the brilliant Rhodes could not prevent the hosts from edging in front.

### POST

O'Neil carved the opening and Connolly raced on to beat the advancing keeper from 12 yards.

O'Neil hammered in a second goal after Connolly's shot came back off the post.

Gunnar Torfason grabbed some consolation for Saints with an 85th minute header.

**ABSW BEST:** O'Neil.

## Airdrie up and running

AIRDRIE 2 FALKIRK 0

**AIRDRIE** took the little and large road to securing their first Premier win of the season.

■ The little was pint-sized striker Alan Lawrence, who celebrated his 30th birthday with Airdrie's second goal in 64 minutes.

The large came in the shape of central defender Chris Honor.

■ The big Englishman got Airdrie's first league goal in 403 minutes of football this season.

Delighted boss Alex MacDonald said afterwards: "It was the way we won which was important as well as getting the two points which were vital."

■ Seething Bairns boss Jim Jefferies said: "We got exactly out of the game what we deserved - absolutely nothing."

It was an untidy affair for Premier debut ref Kenny Clark who booked eight players - four from each side.

■ And Falkirk striker Crawford Baptie was fortunate to get away with a ticking off after a crunching tackle on Airdrie keeper John Martin.

**ABSW BEST:** Black.

## IT'S SHEAR BLISS FOR MIXU!

ABERDEEN 2  
DUNDEE 1

**DONS'** double act of Duncan Shearer and Mixu Paatelainen sank Dundee at Pittodrie.

But the Dark Blues once again proved they were no mugs with another impressive performance.

And it took a great Theo Snelders save from Gary McKeown to keep both points in Aberdeen.

There was a second-half blow for Dundee when they lost winger Ivo Den Blomen with a suspected broken ankle following a collision with Roy Aitken.

And last weekend the Dutchman was in hospital for x-rays.

The Dons goals were special - coming after Dundee's new signing Gary Patterson hit a shock opener.

Dons boss Willie Miller said: "It

was particularly good to get two points after losing the early goal."

"We kept playing football and might have scored more had Jim Leighton not made three outstanding saves."

Dundee's Simon Strainrod replaced Patterson in the second half and said: "We were playing one of the sides who will challenge so it was a reasonable show, I thought we won the pools when Patterson scored but we made a stupid mistake to let him back in."

### DEADLY

Dundee were threatening to take control of the game when Aberdeen hit their equaliser.

And it came from a slice of Jim Bett's magic.

The midfielder played a superb

one-two with Eoin Jess before laying the ball in Shearer's path.

Deadly Dunc duly obliged with his fifth goal of the season.

And Paatelainen's winner just before half-time was another well worked effort. Shearer set up the Finn from a Stephen Wright pass and he cleverly tucked the ball into the corner of the net.

Patterson had stunned the home side in the seventh minute.

The huge striker - signed from Fife Junior football just hours before kick-off - towered above the Dons defence to bullet in a superb Billy Dodds cross.

That prompted thoughts of another Dundee shocker.

But the Dons took control and Leighton had a string of super saves - two from Shearer - to keep his side in the match.

**ABSW BEST:** Leighton.

## Hodge is a super hero

ROTHERHAM 0 HARTLEPOOL 0

**MARTIN HODGE** was the Hartlepool hero as he preserved a valuable point with a spectacular one-handed save to deny rampant Rotherham.

The home side produced a sizzling first-half display and threatened to take the visitors apart.

But Hartlepool produced a spirited second half performance, crowned by Hodge's 73rd minute moment of magic.

It came after Rotherham's Shaun Goater produced a crisp header that bounced awkwardly and had Hodge stretching to push it over the top.

And at the death former Banbury striker Andy Saville might have stolen an unlikely victory but he crashed his 89th minute shot wide for Hartlepool.

HEARTS 0 HIBS 0

**THE** Premier Division's other derby also ended all square, with Heart of Midlothian goalkeeper Henry Smith the hero in a thrilling goalless match at Hibernian.

Smith saved a fifth minute penalty from Brian Hamilton after Gareth Evans had been pulled down in the box.

Honours were even as well at Partick, where the Premier League new boys were denied a 2-1 victory by a 78th minute goal from Motherwell's Doug Arnott.

Motherwell had taken the lead after 31 minutes through Ian Ferguson, only for Ian Cameron to level two minutes later with a shot from outside the area.

A minute into the second period Partick took the lead through George Shaw, but then came that Arnott equaliser.

## TAYLOR MADE... AT THE DOUBLE

BRISTOL ROVERS 2  
BRENTFORD 1

**JOHN TAYLOR** maintained his incredible goal-a-game record as Bristol Rovers stuttered to their first win of the season.

But it was a close call as Brentford set up siege in the second half and were unlucky not to win.

Taylor's two first-half goals took his tally to 11 in as many matches since his eve of deadline signing from Cambridge in March.

"I'm aiming for 30 goals this time and I couldn't have made a better start," said the lanky 28-year-old striker.

His first must rank as his best. In the fifth minute he seized a deft header from Justin Skinner, side-stepped Jamie Bates and powered a blistering left-foot shot into the corner.

The second in the 21st minute was simpler. A barrage of shots smothered the Brentford penalty area, the final one from Tony Pounder canoning off Bates. Well positioned Taylor ran the ball over the line.

Rovers, who needed a win after losing twice in a week, played attractively from the back with the assertive Skinner in charge in midfield.

But the defence suffered a bout of the jitters in the 51st minute and it proved a double blow.

Bob Booker's teasing lob deceived Brian Parkin and Paul Hardiman, the club's record £160,000 signing from Sunderland, couldn't resist punching the ball instinctively against the bar.

He was immediately sent off and Gary Blissett stroked the penalty wide to Parkin's left.

**ABSW BEST:** Taylor.



# Kenny: No go Newell

**BRIAN CLOUGH** has been knocked back in his bid to land Mike Newell.

Forest boss Cloughie wanted the Blackburn hitman to replace Spurs' £2m target, Teddy Sheringham, but Rovers boss Kenny Dalglish would not even start to talk money.

Newell, a £1.1m buy from Everton, was King Kenny's first major capture after moving in at Ewood Park.

And Dalglish sees big Mike's partnership with £3.6m Alan Shearer as the key to success.

Dalglish has also found that money does not talk everywhere.

He tried to make Gary Speed part of Scott Sellars' £800,000 summer sale, but Leeds chief Howard Wilkinson laughed him off.

■ Mel Sterland has given himself a five week deadline to get back into Leeds' European Cup squad.

The ex-England right back has been crocked with a damaged ankle.

■ Former Ipswich chief John Duncan will cover the East Anglian patch for England boss Graham Taylor this season.

## KNEESY DOES IT GAZZA!

**ENGLAND** boss Graham Taylor last weekend told Paul Gascoigne: "Don't rush back - we'll wait for you."

■ Gazza, out for 15 months after two knee operations, has had his £5.5 million Lazio career put on hold by a groin injury.

And Taylor, speaking on Grandstand, said: "It's important that Paul doesn't rush things."

■ "When you are out for a long time you can't pick up knocks. Knowing him he will want to get back, but a restraining hand has to be put on him."

Taylor also told Gazza that he sees him as a vital part of England's World Cup team.

■ "There is great expectancy in Lazio over Paul. He hasn't played for 15 months and it will be interesting to see how he copes. I know he will take it in his stride."

"Apart from two-and-a-half games he hasn't been available since I became England manager."

# CHELSEA ROAR BACK

**SHEFFIELD WED 3  
CHELSEA 3**

**CHELSEA** stunned sleepy Wednesday with three goals in 16 minutes, and earned themselves a standing ovation.

Trailing 2-0 to a David Hirst double, Chelsea roared back in the second half with Vinny Jones, Graham Stuart and Eddie Newton scoring. But Danny Wilson saved the Owls' with his equaliser.

**ABSW BEST:** Nilsson (Wednesday).

**QPR 3  
SHEFF UTD 2**

**UNITED'S** star striker Brian Deane hit his fourth goal of the season but was still a loser.

Deane header home Mike Lalor's 59th minute corner to make it 2-2 but then Dennis Bailey struck.

Les Ferdinand had opened the scoring for Rangers before Alan Cork equalised and then Simon Barker put the hosts back in front.

**ABSW BEST:** Ferdinand.

# SHEARER THE MAKER

**BLACKBURN 1  
MAN CITY 0**

**ALAN SHEARER** turned provider to keep Kenny Dalglish's bandwagon rolling and City looking sick.

The £3.6m hitman had made his fee look like a snip with three goals in two games.

This time the Geordie looked like being disappointed as Keith Curle hardly gave him a kick in front of goal.

But City's lightning-quick skipper could do nothing when Shearer neatly laid on the 70th minute winner for Mike Newell.

Curle was right behind him, 12 yards out, but was helpless as Shearer put the ball into Newell's

path and the left-foot volley almost broke Tony Cotton's net.

It was nothing more than Newell deserved. He had given City more bother than his big-money partner.

It was Newell who had made the best opening of the first half which Stuart Ripley just failed to make count.

He could have been clean through early in the second half but harassed Michel Vonk escaped with a professional foul, seen by everyone but referee Robert Hart.

And when Newell gave Ripley another chance near the end, the winger thundered a shot against a post.

**ABSW BEST:** Newell.



**KENNY DALGLISH**

# THRASHED

**MIDDLESBRO 4  
LEEDS UTD 1**

**MIDDLESBROUGH'S** two-goal Paul Wilkinson and Tommy Wright sent the champions spinning to a shock defeat.

Hit-man Wilkinson grabbed two early goals - both made by Wright - as Leeds suffered their first competitive defeat since a 4-0 hammering at Manchester City on April 4.

And Wright, a £650,000 summer signing from Leicester, headed Boro's third two minutes into the second-half from Jimmy Phillips' left wing corner.

By then, Wilkinson had left the compelling action, substituted at half-time after receiving a first-half battering from Leeds' rattled defenders.

But as Wright says: "I've been looking forward to forming a successful partnership with Paul. He's always impressed me as one of the best target men around."

They were certainly the deadly duo in this Ayresome Park slaughter as Leeds became the latest victims in a spate of shock early-season results in the new Premier League.

And for good measure, Wright set up brilliant Boro's fourth in the 58th minute.

## FIRING

He found winger John Hendrie and he cut in from the left before firing a low right foot drive past the bemused John Lukic. Happy Hendrie celebrated with a double somersault.

For promoted Boro, it was their second big scalp in four days, following their 2-0 win against Manchester City.

But for Leeds, it was a blow only slightly softened by a goal from Eric Cantona - their best player - in the 67th minute.



**ASTON VILLA'S PAUL McGRATH**



**Gazza in Rome**

# DESPERATE DEN

**MANCHESTER UTD 1  
IPSWICH 1**

**DENIS IRWIN** produced a bolt from the blue to save United from the acute embarrassment of losing three on the trot.

They had looked to be heading for their worst start in years when Chris Kiwomya prodded Ipswich ahead after Gary Pallister had completely missed a long throw-in from Neil Thompson.

But two minutes later, Republic of Ireland fullback Irwin collected a crossfield pass from winger Andrei Kanchelskis and rifled home a shot from 25 yards.

The cheers that greeted that strike were mingled with sighs of relief but the faithful fans know that their heroes are only the shadow of a side that so nearly did it all last season.

Newly-promoted Ipswich, typically playing the John

Lyall style of football, defended superbly with the amazing John Wark showing exactly how it should be done.

Not even the introduction of England ace Neil Webb in the 66th minute for his first taste of Premier League football could provide the spark to ignite their side.

He did produce a flashing drive that Ipswich goalkeeper Craig Forrest tipped away but the final blast came from Ipswich with Thomson firing narrowly wide.

There was no hint of a team struggling to find its form as United took early control.

A long centre from Ryan Giggs found Mark Hughes beyond the far post and his powerful header went back across the goalmouth and narrowly wide.

Then Brian McClair saw his shot flash across goal with Giggs a half-pace short of a tap in.

**ABSW BEST:** Wark.

## Irwin rocket stops the rot for United



**BRIAN McCLAIR**



# SOUNESS BACK IN THE DOCK

**GRAEME SOUNESS** went into last Sunday's live TV battle with Arsenal facing a six months old disrepute charge!

The case is likely to be heard at Lancaster Gate within weeks.

The 39-year-old Liverpool boss labelled Barnsley referee Stephen Lodge "a disgrace" after the goalless home draw with Southampton's hard men and added: "If that is the standard of refereeing, English football has no future."

The FA charged him and Souness decided to fight.

But the Anfield master was then hit by massive heart trouble.

The FA seemed ready to let him down lightly after the long delay. They asked him if he still wanted to make a personal defence.

## MASSIVE

Last week, Souness made it clear by letter he will fight.

If he is found guilty, the range of punishment open to the FA is limitless under the charge.

He could face a massive fine and touchline ban.

And Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson, vice-chairman of the newly-formed Managers Association, put himself

## And Fergie's on the brink as he sets up new ref row

bang on a collision course with the FA over referee Brian Hill.

After their defeat by Sheffield United last week, Ferguson laid himself open to a disrepute charge when he said: "We don't want this man handling our matches" and promised the FA a "vigorous report about the ref."

He underlined the outburst in last week's programme for United's game against Ipswich.

He told fans, "... on this occasion I believe I have to let our people know we could be taking some positive move to try and ensure we don't get Mr Hill too often in the future."

"I have the right to send in an assessment because in the new Premier League set-up it is the actual manager and not the club which has to send in a report on the referee after every match."

The Old Trafford boss

went on to say: "I believe I have genuine reasons for my request and I want you, the supporters, to know I have taken steps to try and make sure he is not appointed to one of our games again."

## PENALTY

But Premier League referee supremo Ken Ridden said: "The FA has every confidence in Brian Hill. He's a referee of experience, not confrontational, and he's been on the FIFA list a long time."

Penalties for managers bringing the game into disrepute are almost limitless.

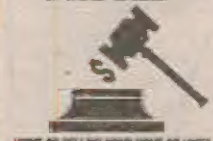
This week, Newcastle boss Kevin Keegan was hit by a \$2,000 fine after allegedly abusing a referee.

And last season Wimbledon chief Joe Kinnear suffered a \$3,000 penalty, later cut to \$2,000, for similar trouble.



Liverpool striker Dean Saunders

## JUDGMENT PASSED



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## PHELAN SHOCK

**TERRY PHELAN** was threatening to call off his \$4 million move from Wimbledon to Crystal Palace at the weekend.

The Dons defender was set to stun the ground-sharing London clubs, who've agreed a record deal for a full-back.

But Phelan, after indicating he'd be happy to stay in the capital, is ready to do a U-turn because he still wants to join Manchester City.

City are expected to try again for the 25-year-old Mancunian this week.

Phelan has already made it clear to Palace boss Steve Coppell that his heart is at Maine Road, where he used to be a City fan.

Phelan - also a target for Chelsea - will agree to go

through with the move to Palace only if his financial demands are met - and City are unable to agree a deal with Wimbledon.

He is prepared to sit tight with the Dons and make himself available for tonight's match at Sheffield United.

\***ABERDEEN'S** Dutch striker Hans Gillhaus is ready to return to Holland with PSV Eindhoven after rejecting a month's contract with Aston Villa.

\***SCOTLAND** are ready to pull Gary McAllister and Brian McClair out of the Leeds-Manchester United game on Sunday September 6.

And Kevin Gallacher could be missing from the Coventry side if City's game at Oldham is switched to that Monday night.

## Chumps Leeds!

\* **SOCCER'S** big names are nursing their bruises after being cut right down to size. Champions Leeds went to newly-promoted Middlesbrough and got a 4-1 bashing. Champions? Chumps, more like. Howard Wilkinson's men were put to the sword by another Wilko - Boro striker Paul, who grabbed two early goals.

\* Big mouth Brian Clough had a lot to chew on as he saw his Forest side chopped down 5-3 by Oldham. Top men in the Premier are Coventry, who won at Wimbledon in front of just 3,759 fans. Bad lads Neil Ruddock (Spurs) and Andy Thorn (Palace) were sent off in the 2-2 draw of White Hart Lane.